The Middlebury Campus

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Financial aid bill sparks debate

By Chris Whitely

The discussion was heated and emotional during the SGA's consideration of the Financial Aid bill last Sunday, as students from several groups on campus responded to language in the bill that they felt was offensive and inappropriate.

After nearly unanimous support for the first three sections of the bill, the meeting erupted with questions about the language and the sources of information for the fourth proposal and in other areas of the report.

The fourth proposal, part B, asks for Middlebury to "shift the focus away from recruiting minority students in urban areas" and asks "to evaluate the possibility of minority recruitment in other areas including the rural and suburban South."

Before this proposal was discussed, April Varner '94 read a statement from the African American Alliance (AAA) which called the document insulting because, among other reasons, its language is "indicative of fears of diversifying the campus". Afterwards Sayra Pinto '95, reading a statement by the Alianza Caribena y Latina (ALC), berated the SGA for not consulting either the AAA or the ALC on the bill.

Pinto also attacked the bill for its implication that minority students are recruited with lower admissions standards than others. She suggested that the language be more specific to avoid generalizing between minority groups and individuals.

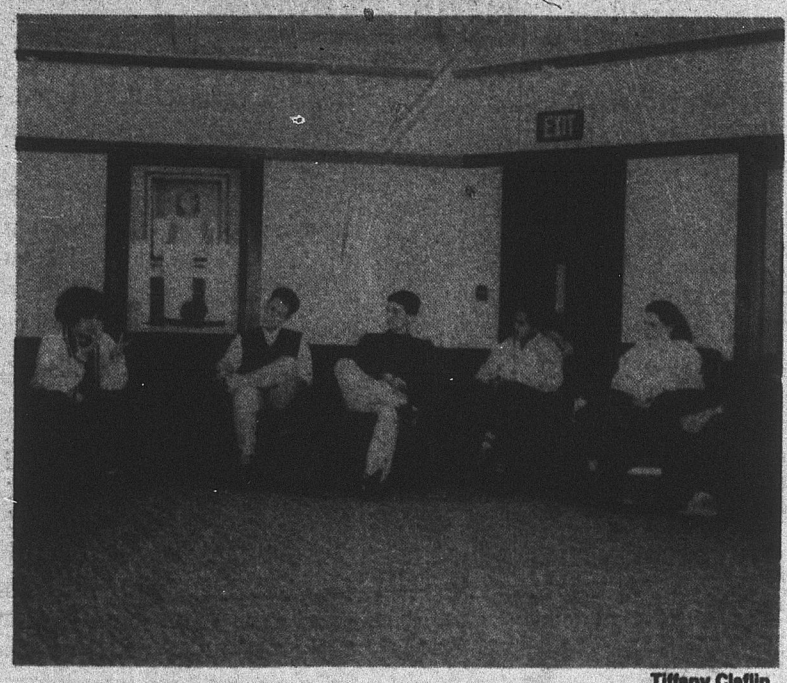
Warren Reid '94 was so offended and angered by the bill that he made an emotional statement and then left, saying that "it is a sad thing that this is the education [the members of the committee] are getting."

SGA President Brendan O'Leary '94, one of the authors of the bill, apologized for any offense taken to the language. He and vice president Dudley Winthrop '94 stressed that the bill was only being presented for discussion, and in no way was the final draft. They hoped that everyone would listen to each other, and "avoid the kind of polarization that often occurs in such discussions on other campuses."

After more points were raised, the SGA moved to postpone further consideration of the report until the authors of the bill, O'Leary and Todd Molz '94, can meet with representatives from the AAA and the ALC, as well as with other concerned individuals, to discuss the articles in question.

When asked how long the bill

(continued on page 4)



Tiffany Claflin

Students concerned about campus racial relations met on Tuesday, following Sunday's emotionally-charged SGA meeting.

Police target thieves

By Jen Varney

Middlebury College Security, in cooperation with local police, have made several advances in the investigation of the thefts that occurred on campus during the holiday vacation and Winter Term. Though some suspects have been identified, to date there have been no arrests.

Campus Security has appointed security officer Dave Winborn to investigate the thefts, and he is working with officer Scott Fisher from the Middlebury Police Department.

Director of Campus Security Peter Chenevert said that security has instituted a new type of report form that makes it easier for the two groups to work together. The new form looks more like what the town police are used to, and therefore it is easier for the police to follow up on the crimes and enter them into their computer system, where the reports will be connected to a state-wide, and also to a national, crime-fighting system.

Chenevert praised the town police for their involvement: "Tom Hanley [chief of police] was very prompt about appointing an officer to work with us."

According to Fisher, the investigative work on this case has been difficult. "It's difficult because we're dealing with more than one theft. Usually if I go down to Skihaus [for example] there's just been one isolated incident."

Winborn and Fisher have been pursuing this case "the old-fashioned way," said Fisher. Most of the work has simply been talking to victims and witnesses. By simply asking questions they were able to narrow down the time of one set of the thefts from 10 days to six hours.

Fisher says he spends about one

(continued on page 3)

Environmental Studies suffering

By Jeff Albertson

A popular course in Environmental Studies and its accompanying lab section will be offered during both fall and spring terms next year in a bid to alleviate the large class sizes which some students say have negatively impacted their experience with the course.

Associate Professor of Biology Steve Trombulak will continue to teach the course, Natural Science and the Environment (ES 112/114), in spring 1995. Rich Wolfson, professor of physics, will lead the new fall term section.

Some students who have taken the course have concerns about its size. One junior, who spoke on the condition that his name not be used, said that to expect Trombulak to read and evaluate so many students' work is "unreal." The student recalled a paper returned to him with only sparse comments and a grade.

Tracey Wilkerson '96, an ES major and member of her program's Student Advisory Council, said the class is "way too big."

"It reflects the problem within Environmental Studies — that there's not enough faculty," she said.

Trombulak disputed the notion that instruction and evaluation suffer due to the class size. "I do as well teaching 140 students as I do teaching 40," he said. "To suggest otherwise would be to question my professional standards."

He added that he finds it challenging to make the course an interactive one. "The downside [of the class size] is that it allows the student who wants anonymity to have it."

Trombulak expressed impatience with the administration's actions regarding the Environmental Studies program. "The college has been a little reluctant to show the leadership necessary to sustain efforts at environmental education," he said.

"The administration will have to decide whether to promote the environmental studies component of the curriculum," said Trombulak, who added that no tenure-track appointments of Environmental Studies faculty had been made since his own arrival nine years ago.

That version of events is disputed by Dean for Academic Planning Eric Davis, who explained that non-departmental programs are staffed by faculty from existing departments. He offered the appointments of Chris Klyza in politi-

(continued on page 4)

Three-year B.A. offered

Middlebury College will offer a three-year bachelor of arts degree, the International Major, starting in June 1995. The new program will build on three of Middlebury's traditional strengths: international programs, foreign languages and the Middlebury Schools Abroad.

In announcing the new baccalaureate degree, Middlebury President John McCardell noted that the new program "creates depth and breadth in the curriculum, makes our education more affordable, emphasizes the college's distinctive strengths and attracts exceptional students. It recognizes as well that some, though not necessarily all, subjects may be pursued at an accelerated pace. We expect a limited number of highly qualified, highly motivated, highly focused and mature students to come into the program."

The International Major will permit students to focus their work in a wide variety of disciplines. They will complete degree requirements in three academic years and two summers. Requirements will include a core of ten courses in the major area of study, three international foundation courses, a stringent foreign language requirement equivalent to three or four years, and a year abroad and a senior-level academic project or thesis.

The new program creates opportunities for the achievement of greater language proficiency before studying abroad. Students must have completed at least the third level of the language before going abroad. It is expected that many will have completed the fourth level and beyond, making them better prepared to do challenging work in their major fields in the target language.

"It also allows for better integration of departments in the humani-

(continued on page 3)

Here comes the sun

Alex Grossman

Unusually good weather brought sunshine and temperatures in the 50s to the campus last weekend, melting many of the sites for upcoming Winter Carnival activities, such as the luge and the ice sculpture contests. Snow is expected by the end of the week, in time for the Carnival.

INSIDE

Opinions

Professors and students respond to Comps attack, page 7

In Depth

Damaging stereotypes present in Middlebury community, page 17

Opinions.....5
Features.....9
Arts.....13
In Depth.....17
Sports.....24

College Shorts

Hilary Long

Phone prankster fails to amuse

A senior at Geneva College in Beavers Falls, Pennsylvania was suspended for one week after programming his computer to dial the home phone numbers of administrators at dawn.

Mark Schaefer's reason for the calls was revenge. He had been complaining for months about a faulty alarm system in his dormitory that had interrupted his sleep. When nothing was done about it, he created his own disturbance for those he considered responsible.

The calls were traced to Schaefer's room after several months. The troublesome dormitory alarm has since been repaired.

Rebels lose again

After complaints by students, the Confederate flag will no longer fly over the Dixie College campus. Considered to be racist, the flag will be replaced with a new flag designed by an elementary school student.

A spokesman for the college said that the flag meant something very different in the 1960s from what it means today. The flag is being removed in April after more than thirty years. The reason behind the change is to be more sensitive to new students, according to Dixie officials.

Arson blamed for destructive blaze

The education and psychology departments at Virginia Union University were destroyed by a fire that blazed for two hours. Investigators say the fire was the result of arson.

Currently, investigators have no leads on who is responsible for the crime. The rebuilding of Gray Hall could take one year with costs running between $2 million and $3 million. Until then, classes are relocating in buildings across from the campus.

Jeffrey Clark, an associate professor of psychology, said starting over is the only thing that can be done. He lost everything in his office, including the notes for three research projects, to the fire.

UNC student libels peer

Douglas Nabors, a first-year student at the University of North Carolina who sought revenge against another student, found himself charged with a misdemeanor for submitting libelous material to the press.

Nabors wrote a letter degrading Martin Luther King, Jr., and submitted it to the college newspaper under Brian Nance's name. After its publication, Nance received death threats and had to move to an off-campus apartment for safety.

The editors of *The Carolina* say that they will now take further steps to insure the authenticity of all letters before they appear. Flyers were posted around campus explaining the violation against Nance.

Biologists say no to formaldehyde

Orange Coast College has managed to take the dreaded sight and smell out of dissection by opening a new lab full of specimens that have undergone a preservation process called "plastination."

The process involves dehydrating the cadavers and injecting them with silicone. The bodies are then sliced into pieces so that the organs are easy to identify.

The parts can be handled without gloves and are odor and toxin free. Ann Harmer, an associate professor of biology, said the body parts should be "more approachable" for the students.

Hackers take down computers at Rice

After being forced to cut off links with Internet and shut down a campus network used by students due to an attack by hackers, officials at Rice University say their computer system is back to normal.

The break-in was unusual because the invaders managed to gain high-level access to the system. Rice students and faculty were prevented from using the Internet for over a week. Experts said they knew of no other time when an institution's computer system had been down for such a long time due to a security breach.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation often handles computer crimes, and it is currently investigating to determine if the invasion was linked to similar assaults at other institutions.

School reopens post-quake

California s state university at Northridge reopened this week, working around the dangers and inconveniences posed by damage from the deadly earthquake almost a month ago. Safety inspectors deemed two buildings unsafe for classes following inspection for structural damage. Another building is also off limits due to fire damage, and a four story parking garage is no longer available. The garage suffered structural damage during the initial quake, and it collapsed during one of the aftershocks.

Sources: The New York Times, The Chronicle of Higher Education

Global to Local

By Cory Fischer

Serb deadline passes

The deadline for launching air strikes against Bosnian Serb artillery positions passed Monday, though NATO does not expect that such measures will be necessary.

U.N. Commander Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Rose said that he was "optimistic" about the withdrawal of the Serb forces. Although some artillery pieces still remain in the hills overlooking Sarajevo, it appears that the Serbs are in compliance with most of the terms of the ultimatum that NATO issued.

U.N officials are in general agreement that "at this stage," air strikes are unnecessary.

"We are reasonably optimistic that we will come to a peaceful end to this terrible war," Rose said.

As the deadline approached last weekend, some thought that strikes would be in order to eliminate remaining Bosnian Serb gun sites.

Later it became evident that the area was more secure than it seemed. "I am satisfied we have achieved effective compliance with the requirement to remove or place under [U.N.] control all heavy weapons within the 12-mile exclusion zone," said Yasushi Akashi, a senior U.N. official.

Budget debate ensues

The debate over a balanced budget amendment looms in the near future as support for it has reached the point where a vote in the Senate is assured. While this feat marks a notable increase, it does not appear that it has enough support to garner the 2/3 majority that it requires for passage.

"We have 60 votes to block a filibuster. I don't know that we have the 67 votes to pass it," said Sen. Paul Simon, D-Illinois. The debate that will decide the matter could start as early as this week.

It is not known whether opponents of the bill have enough votes to defeat it. "I don't think Robert Byrd has 34 votes to stop it," said Simon, referring to the Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman who is the chief opponent of the amendment.

The amendment would require balanced federal budgets beginning in 2001 unless 3/5 of the House and Senate voted to allow a deficit. The amendment was debated in 1986 and missed passage by one vote.

If it is approved by the Senate the bill will still require a 2/3 vote in the House and ratification by 38 of 50 state legislatures, a process that could take as long as seven years.

The bill's opponents, such as Sen. Bill Bradley from New Jersey, believe that the amendment will not reduce annual deficits.

"You're going to have enabling legislation and I guarantee you the enabling legislation's going to be full of loopholes," said Bradley.

Vermont legislators consider health care reform

State lawmakers hope to offer a universal health care access system to Vermonters, to improve upon the existent health care infrastructure and system of community hospitals. Much to the dismay of constituents, however, the changes will most likely be phased in gradually, over a period of years.

"In order for us to turn things around and give health care new meaning ... it's going to take time," said Rep. Peg Martin, D-Middlebury. Martin is a member of the Legislature's Special Committee on Health Care.

Representatives have already enacted laws which ban health insurance firms from "cherry-picking," or targeting and only serving low-risk clients. Despite this kind of progress, Vermont faces significant obstacles in federal legislation that protects large companies' right to self-insure their employees, as well as in Medicare and Medicaid.

The plans are expected to move slowly in part due to the large amount of other tasks facing the legislature, although Martin urged that timing Vermont's proposals to match federal efforts toward universal access is essential to the success of reform.

"If we wait, it's going to become much more complicated," she said.

Middlebury selectmen approve questionnaire

Middlebury voters will consider a number of planning and development issues in the upcoming Town Meeting Day survey, to be completed March 1.

The questionnaires are meant as a way of gauging public opinion, and are not intended to be binding. Some of the queries will concern: whether the town should use brighter but more orange street lights; a decision between two kinds of proposed bridges in town; if the town should continue to fund social service agencies through its budget or if the payments should be put to special votes; whether the town should impose a local income tax to raise school costs; and various traffic management proposals including synchronizing Court Street traffic signals and making the downtown area more bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly.

Sources: The New York Times, The Addison Independent

Tour season approaches

Alex Grossman

With the coming of the spring semester and more pleasant weather in Vermont, prospective students flocked to the campus as the admissions process begins for the class of 1998.

Trustees hear student proposals

By Karen Quinn

The Board of Trustees Committee of Student Life met to discuss several important issues on Feb. 11, including the Financial Aid Proposal, the recommendation by the Comprehensive Fee Committee, the review of the social houses and a brief presentation by Career Counseling and Planning.

The recommendation by the Comprehensive Fee Committee was presented by Zachary Stillerman '97 concerning their estimate for the '94-'95 academic year. The committee researched and investigated thoroughly before coming up with their final recommendation of $25,803. Dean of Students Ann Hanson said that this was a good discussion about the comprehensive fee and the strategies proposed to help keep the fee to a minimum.

Brendan O'Leary '94 and Todd Molz '94 presented the on-going Financial Aid Proposal, which involves broadening and strengthening the financial aid system at Middlebury to enable it to support a wider cultural and socio-economic range of applicants. There are growing concerns that the present system is inadequate in providing for middle class students seeking aid.

KT Briscoe '94 gave the most recent review of the social houses following the Community Council's official acceptance of two new social houses, Zeta Theta Phi and Alpha Delta Phi, on Jan. 31. The Social House Bill which passed in the SGA by a vote of 50-4 was also discussed. The bill formalizes a process of selectivity for acceptance into a social house because currently there is no specific selective process for membership.

In this discussion, the board also wanted to clear up some concerns among the student body that the administration does not give long-term support to the social houses. The board reaffirmed their "Statement to the Middlebury College Community from the Board of Trustees," dated January, 1993 in which the trustees not only commended the high level of discussion and consideration put into the social house issue but also stated that they consider the social houses a "vital feature of residential life at Middlebury." The trustees signed this statement of support and assured the student body that they have their full and long-term backing.

The final agenda item, cut short due to time constraints, was a brief presentation on the effectiveness of Career Counseling and Placement (CC&P) by Pat Mullane and Valerie Szymkowicz. They shared data from polls taken from recent Middlebury alumni and the senior class. CC&P is currently under evaluation and the SGA is looking for ways to improve its effectiveness. KT Briscoe, secretary of oversight for the SGA, said that they have a very "positive approach" to the improvement plans for CC&P and are looking to revamp the system based on on-going research.

Carnival festivities kick off

Alex Grossman

Students prepare for the up-coming snow sculpturing contest.

Community Council argues house selectivity

By Noelle Campagna

The Inter-House Council (IHC), represented by Heather Dorf '94, presented a series of proposals in attempt to win support for the house selectivity in the Social House bill during the Community Council meeting on Monday.

Dorf began by reinforcing the houses' commitments to their ideals and practices. She then introduced the IHC proposal, consisting of four points that intended to secure the house members' responsibility to themselves and each other, and also to make the selection process a more concrete one.

The IHC plans to create an application with questions similar to those asked by houses currently using applications, such as the Environmental House and Bi-Cultural Center. A formal interview was a second consideration where 3 or 4 members of the house would meet with prospective house members in a formal setting. After the house had come to a decision, students would then be notified in a formalized manner.

These three practices, new to the house system, would help make house selection a more concrete task. The IHC is willing to establish an appeals process to keep the act as a check on the houses' right of selection. Before passing discussion on to the Community Council, Dorf added an important reason for house selection to the already long list. She explained what reciprocal accountability meant to a house that could not trust its members. As an officer, she is accountable for the actions of house members, and selection can alleviate the stresses related to this responsibility.

Council members then debated the current status of house members. Questions arose over the responsibility factor. The basis for these questions came from the fact that all students on campus can drink at the houses. Selectivity can prevent the possibility of students joining a house for "partying," and members of the houses were quick to point out incidents that had actually occurred in the past which were representative of this problem.

Some faculty and staff members of the council were unhappy with the idea of students judging students on issues such as character. Kirsten Powell, dean of the college, worried that these decisions, made with "no firm evidence deny [students] the benefits ... that in the end, is education."

Judging such intangibles as responsibility, social skills and quality of character became a source of frustration for both sides of the debate and comments became circular, leading to an impasse.

John Emerson, vice president for student affairs, was concerned with the "amorphous nature" of the selection process, feeling that there was no way of guaranteeing that discrimination and unfair practice would not penetrate it. He did voice his feelings that the question at hand was not the faculty and administration trusting the students. The lack of trust, he stated, is toward the process itself.

Suspects identified in recent thefts

(continued from page 1)

day a week on campus investigating. "It's hard to get a hold of people because of class schedules," he says, "but the phonemail system is great. People are good about returning calls." Winborn and Fisher have put together several line-ups, and witnesses have identified several suspects. While the police cannot release any names until an arrest has been made, Chenevert did confirm that the suspects are not Middlebury College students.

Fisher noted that for two different locations there is one suspect, because of similar patterns noted in the crimes. He added that he wants to get all the information he can before making any arrests, to ensure that he covers all the bases.

"As much as I want to run right out and make an arrest, I'm holding myself back," he said.

Fisher also added that the chances of recovery of the stolen items are "slim to none. One of the suspects has a very good outlet for things." He speculates that most of the stolen goods left the thief's hands by the next day.

The thefts during the holiday vacation took place in Stewart and the majority of thefts reported during Winter Term took place in the New Dorms. No thefts have been reported to security since the beginning of the spring term.

Among the items that were taken were compact discs, cassettes, portable stereos and clothing. In addition, a license plate was stolen from a car parked on Franklin Street and there were two reports of individuals who woke up to discover things were stolen from their room while they were asleep.

Alex Grossman

Students who leave doors unlocked are prime targets for theft.

Most of the thefts occurred because doors were left unlocked and security asks that all students lock their doors and secure their valuables.

"I know it's a hassle," Chenevert said, "but it's worth it." He also added that any suspicious activity should be reported to security immediately. "We'd like to be able to apprehend someone before they leave the building or the campus."

Fisher also stresses the importance of locked doors. "In a hall with ten doors," he said, "the thief will go for the unlocked one."

College to offer three-year degree program

(continued from page 1)

ties, social sciences and the field sciences with the language departments and Summer Language Schools" notes McCardell.

Students pursuing the International Major will enter Middlebury at the start of the summer and will immediately become engaged in the intensive language study offered in one of the eight Language Schools. They will spend the first academic year on campus in a program that will include a first year seminar, writing intensive courses and a set of international requirements in geography, history and politics. During the second summer, students will be expected to advance their language proficiency in anticipation of foreign study.

The second year, students will study at one of Middlebury College's five programs abroad in Florence, Madrid, Mainz, Moscow and Paris, or at one of the college's approved programs elsewhere.

Following a break for the summer, students will return to spend their third and final year on campus where they will be expected to complete a senior-level thesis or project.

"The concept of a three year baccalaureate degree program at Middlebury has been of great interest to us for many years," said McCardell.

"It has prompted us to consider how we might address the growing public concerns over the price of higher education without compromising the quality of our program. We expect it to stimulate further discussion and to challenge in appropriate ways the conventional assumptions under which we have operated for a very long time. This program offers significant savings for a student and his or her family. The financial aid formula that we will use in this program will take into account a year-round comprehensive fee and the reduced earning potential of year-round students."

Debate heats up SGA

(continued from page 1)

will be postponed, O'Leary responded, "Well ... for quite awhile." This statement evoked general laughter that momentarily eased the tension in the assembly.

The possibility was raised by a few students, including Emilie Mennel '96, of holding a town meeting to discuss issues relating to the financial aid problem. In addition, Pinto offered to hold a meeting which took place on Tuesday that addressed some of these issues.

The meeting drew members from all parts of the community and served as a chance for "people to get things off their chest," said Pinto. Discussion at the meeting ranged from the specifics of the bill to larger questions of equality and racism.

"I can see some of the language in the report did not handle the issue well," said Jake Citrin '94, SGA chief of staff.

The strong tide of emotion that swelled in the SGA meeting was felt by many to be the symptom of larger problems of conflict. "When you deal with anger that is built up, you can unleash a lot with a small mistake," explained Pinto.

While the issue surrounding the recruitment of minorities drew sharp criticism, many other parts of the bill were passed easily. The SGA voted in support of the college's new policy to treat international students equally to other students in regards to financial aid. Previously, the college asked all international students to make a minimum family contribution of $5,000.

The assembly was also in favor of the suggestion that the college strengthen its Outreach program, which increases regional diversity by giving aid to needy students from rural communities.

In addition, the SGA voted in favor of a recommendation to help the middle class by establishing a new long-term, need-based loan. This part of the proposal also includes altering the financial aid forms to more clearly indicate the actual amount that needs to be paid directly to the comptroller.

Maja Thaler

The opportunity for work-study employment is one of the issues that the financial aid report addressed. One of the biggest employers of students on campus is Middining Services.

ES students crowded

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cal science and Alison Byerly in English as examples of Environmental Studies faculty granted tenure-track positions in recent years.

Specifically regarding ES 112, Davis said, "Our long-term goal is to be able to offer a lab section to each student in the course. We won't be able to accomplish this until facilities and staffing will allow it."

The lab section is presently taught by students in Trombulak's Environmental Education course, ES 402, which is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Davis would like to see those students replaced with salaried assistants in instruction as the NSF funding runs out.

Trombulak scoffed at rumors that class enrollment, which currently hovers around 140, would be limited to 45 per semester under the new plan.

"That would be absurd," said Trombulak. "I don't know where that came from."

Currently, enrollment in ES 112 is limited to sophomores and first-year students who pre-register for the course. The lab section's enrollment is limited to 40 students.

Limits are necessary, Trombulak explains, because the course is a requisite for Environmental Studies majors.

If majors are unable to take the course in their first two years, serious disruptions follow.

"We could limit registration to ES majors, but at Middlebury most students don't declare a major until the end of their sophomore year," he said.

The real solution, he maintained, is for the college to make courses like ES 112 more available to students outside the major sequence. "Until students rise up *en masse* and demand resources," concluded Trombulak "the administration will continue to be slow in responding to the needs of this program."

Disciplinary Hearings, Fall 1993

The following is a list of disciplinary actions taken by the college during the fall semester. The listings describe the date of the citation, the violation, the body that heard the case and the decision rendered by that body.

9/13/93
Student charged for Disrespect to Persons and Property
Judicial Council
Put on official warning. Letter of apology and 50 hours of community service.

10/1/93
Student charged for violation of Respect for Property
Deans
10/8/93 Student found guilty, issued a warning and $60 fine.

10/4/93
Student charged for violation of College driving policy and alcohol policy
Deans
10/26/93 Accepted admission of guilt, issued a warning.

10/7/93
Student charged for violation of College drug and alcohol policy
Deans
10/20/93 Accepted admission of responsibility; issued a warning, required to have drug consultation with our counselors.

10/8/93
Student charged for violation of College driving regulations
Deans
10/13/93 Accepted admission of responsibility; put on disciplinary probation for rest of academic year.

10/8/93
Student charged for violation of College driving regulations
Deans
10/14/93 Accepted admission of responsibility; issued a warning, driving privileges revoked for remainder of fall term, required to pay for damages. Parents notified.

10/14/93
Student charged for tampering with fire safety equipment
Deans
10/29/93 Accepted admission of responsibility for discharging fire extinguisher; not guilty of inappropriate behavior. Placed on social probation for remainder of fall term. Fined $200. Parents notified.

10/15/93
Student charged for Disrespect for Persons and tampering with fire safety equipment.
Deans
11/16/93 Student found guilty of both charges; will be suspended after last final exam this fall, $200 fine plus repair and replacement costs. Alcohol consultation.

10/15/93
Student charged for Disrespect for Property
Deans
11/8/93 Accepted admission of guilt, placed on official probation through end of Winter Term '94.

10/18/93
Four students charged for violating College party and alcohol regulations
Judicial Council
11/19/93 Students found guilty; issued a warning $100 fine to be shared by all.

11/8/93
Two students charged for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession and use of marijuana
Deans
11/11/93 Accepted admission of responsibility for the charge violation of College Alcohol and Drug Policy; issued a warning.

11/15/93
Student charged for violation of College driving regulations.
Deans
12/1/93 Accepted admission of guilt, issued a warning; $25 fine and cost for lawn repair.

11/16/93
Student charged for violation of College alcohol and drug policy.
Deans
11/20/93 Accepted admission of guilt; issued a warning.

11/22/93
Student charged for violation of College regulation regarding fire safety equipment.
Deans
12/6/93 Accepted admission of guilt to discharging a fire extinguisher; issued a warning, $200 fine plus $66.73 for recharging fire extinguisher.

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Professors, students respond to Comps attack

Charges against Sudan unsubstantiated

Last week's Opinions letter by Brian Schaefer ("English major sounds off on Comps") generated the largest response of any Campus submission this year. We present on this page all the letters received.

In a letter to the Feb. 18 issue of *The Campus*, Brian Schaefer '94 complains about his experience with the Comprehensive Program for Senior English majors this J-term. As the Director of that program, I am writing to correct some errors of fact in his letter and to add my own perspective.

What disturbs me most about Mr. Schaefer's letter is his ill-informed, unsubstantiated and cowardly attack on the professional competence of Professor Rajani Sudan, one of seven instructors participating in the Comprehensive Program. Mr. Schaefer states, "Sudan began teaching at Middlebury only last fall, and was not invited to return for the Spring semester. Yet she was obligated to be one of seven professors involved in the Comps program."

Allow me to review with the community how Professor Sudan came to be a member of the English Department. We advertised nationally in 1992 for two one-year leave replacement positions. We received and reviewed as a staff over 500 applications, interviewed 15 prospective candidates individually at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, invited six of those candidates individually to Middlebury for two full days of interviews and presentations, and offered the position to three of those candidates, one of whom was Professor Sudan, who was then in her third year of teaching at Bowdoin. The position was clearly defined as a one-year leave replacement, a very common arrangement here and elsewhere.

Contrary to Mr. Schaefer's assertion, Professor Sudan is very much with us this Spring semester, and we are glad to have her. No one is "obligated" to serve on the Comps staff: we wanted to include Professor Sudan because of her outstanding qualifications, and she graciously agreed to work with us in what is arguably the most demanding teaching experience of the year.

Mr. Schaefer recklessly conjectures: "If she was hired for Comps before her ability was properly assessed, which I would guess is the more likely scenario ... she should not have been involved in the program." Not only was her "ability" more than "properly assessed" before she was offered the position, as

(continued on page 8)

Student defends program

Whenever I read the Opinion section of *The Middlebury Campus*, it is a usual affair for my last three meals to come up portion by portion with every paragraph I read. Last week's issue, however, was different in the sense that after reading Brian Schaefer's condemnation of the Senior Comprehensive Exam for the English major, I had a meal come up that I hadn't seen for three weeks.

I am a senior English major who, like Schaefer, recently went through the Comps program. In his piece, he blasted the whole program because he clashed with one of the professors who participated in it. I don't know Rajani Sudan; she was one of the two professors with whom I did not have contact during the month. I, too, understand from those who got the opportunity to work with her that she is a difficult grader, one who has fairly high standards for students. And some students, like Schaefer, may have felt as though they were evaluated according to higher standards than what they expected.

But there is no reason in the world for an opinion piece like the one Schaefer has written. First of all, he is misinformed about her teaching status; she was hired for a one-year leave-replacement position, and she was not asked to leave for the Spring Term because of her "tenuous" teaching status. That is what happens in the academic world; teachers take one-year positions at different colleges and universities until they land at an institution that has a more long-term position available for them.

Secondly, there is no reason for a public attack which has no other purpose than obliterating Sudan's reputation among her colleagues and the students who are taking her classes this term. If Schaefer has a problem with his grade, and he seriously thinks that his whole overall grade for Comps was brought down by Sudan's assessment of him, then maybe he should talk to her in person about it. Or if he thinks that she is out to get him, and he is uncomfortable being in the same room with her, then maybe he could speak to the man whom he believes to be the devil behind the conspiracy to expose him to inadequate teaching practices, David Price (director of the program). I'm not sure there is any rational justification for such blatant disrespect and outright maliciousness. Does Sudan deserve such treatment because some students think she grades them too hard? Absolutely not. And furthermore, just because a professor gives some bad grades does not make him or her a bad teacher. Most people earn the bad grades they receive.

The other part that Schaefer neglects to mention is that another professor was in the room with him when Sudan supposedly made him "look bad"; the professor is one who has been a highly-respected, active member of the English department since before Brian's parents stopped sucking their thumbs. I don't think that this professor caved in to Sudan's irrational hatred for Schaefer and then conspired with her to lower his grade. I also wonder if Brian seriously thinks he could sue Mr. Price for unfair business practices in the "real world." Actually, I'm glad that he doesn't think of Middlebury College as the real world, because it is only in "Fantasyland" that there would be a forum for him to whine about grades in print, and in front of two thousand people at that.

I am not submitting that the Comps program is flawless; I'm not even assessing it. I am simply noting that it is out of a total lack of respect for someone with whom Schaefer may have clashed personally that an opinion piece like his arises. Like I said, I don't know much about Sudan, but I do know that as a professor of English at this

(continued on page 8)

Schaefer corrects mistake

I would like to apologize for a misstatement I made in my Opinions piece in last week's *Campus*. I said that Rajani Sudan was asked not to return for this Spring Semester, when in fact she is teaching until the end of it. I regret this oversight.

However, my argument is essentially unaffected by this mistake, and I stand by the other comments I made about Sudan, the Comps program and the English department generally.

Brian Schaefer '94

Professor backs colleague

As the current Chair of Middlebury's Department of English, I am writing in response to Brian Schaefer's letter in the Feb. 18 issue of *The Campus*.

Mr. Schaefer is surely entitled to express whatever views he has regarding the department's senior comprehensive examination, but it seems to me that as someone who claims to take his education seriously he ought to recognize some obligation to determine and respect the facts of the situation he is addressing. In voicing his dissatisfaction-satisfaction with the grade he was given by a team which included Rajani Sudan, a Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Mr. Schaefer asserts that she "was not invited to return for the Spring Semester." This is simply false. Ms. Sudan continues to teach a full schedule of courses this spring and there was never any question of her not doing so. As her title indicates, she was hired by the department for this academic year as a replacement for regular faculty members currently on leave. It goes without saying that her employment in this capacity, like her assignment to work in the senior program, reflects the department's confidence in her professional qualifications.

Building on a factual misrepresentation to cast doubt on Ms. Sudan's competence to evaluate his performance, Mr. Schaefer goes on to make a loose series of allegations, all of them unsupported, regarding the selection of faculty participants in the senior program, the calculation of the over all comprehensive grade, the pedagogical value of the experience, and the character and attitude of the English Department as a whole. In all of this, Mr. Schaefer's genuine irritation and disappointment seem clear enough, but the logic of his argument does not.

Although they might simply be written off as driven by the evident discrepancy between the grade he received on his senior examination and his own higher estimate of his abilities, the concerns expressed in Mr. Schaefer's letter ask to be taken seriously, and at face value. But the authority of his criticisms is hardly enhanced by his observation that "all one ever does in an English class is raise questions, and perhaps guess at the answers. There can't really be any cohesiveness. It's mental masturbation." If this is his belief, any reader must ask, then how is one to interpret Mr. Schaefer's decision to become an English major in the first place? And what effect might beliefs of this kind have on one's sense of intellectual purpose, or on one's conception of what constitutes distinguished academic performance?

Stephen Donadio
Acting Chair
English Department

Newspaper staff criticized

We write to express our dismay at your decision to publish the letter written by Brian Schaefer in the Feb. 18 issue of *The Campus*. Although this letter ostensibly addresses the inequities of the English Department's Comprehensive Exam, Mr. Schaefer complains at length about the grade he received and launches a personal attack on the faculty member who examined him.

What does the decision to print this letter say about the newspaper's journalistic standards and its role on this campus? Will you now publish all letters from students dissatisfied with their grades?

Your editorial policy statement underscores the newspaper's right "to edit all Opinions letters." Under what circumstances do you exercise this right? As a matter of editorial policy are the pages of *The Campus* to be used to publicize private grudges?

Brett Millier
Michael Newbury
Timothy Spears
Dept. of American Literature and Civilization

The Jester's Court

GENE SWIFT

Right about now, the stage directions would read, "*Enter a Fool.*"

The editors of this fine paper have bestowed upon me a bi-weekly Opinions column. Armed but with a feeble wit and an observant eye, I have accepted the role once played by the great Puck and Touchstone: the fool set among the nobility, keeping close watch on the madness of great ones.

In expectation of many a response to words yet unwritten, I have decided to set forth a general summary of my viewpoints and biases as a prologue to the verse and prose to come:

I could be classified as a white, Anglo-Saxon, Protestant male, although I recognize the Norman-influences of William the Conqueror's eleventh-century antics in the very language I speak, and my Anglo-Saxon blood has been diluted by that of Italy, Scotland (Gaelic/Celtic, thank you very much ...) and Russia. Of my Protestant faith (Lutheran), I can honestly say I am tired of organized religions as a whole and what they have done "in the name of God," and my Protestant status is better summarized as simply Christian.

As for being male, that is the fault of a few chromosomes over which I had little control during mitosis and even less now. However, I openly admit and feel sorry on a regular basis for what those like myself have done to those unlike myself throughout history (and believe me, my history concentration has shown me plenty of examples).

I am a Long Islander by birth and upbringing, although I have no subconscious desire to wander through every shopping mall I see, and never pronounce the "g" at the end of "ing" words or in the "Long" in Long Island. I am a registered Democrat, much to the chagrin of my Republican father. I am a vehement advocate of gay-rights, and although I don't think abortion is the greatest idea in the world, I hope someday to see a world in which a woman's womb is hers and hers alone. I adore alliteration, and believe that stronger gun-control measures are necessary, for guns don't kill people, people with guns kill people.

I am against the idea of single-sex social organizations on this campus, yet I auditioned for the Dissipated Eight three times. I get annoyed at people who park illegally and then complain about poor parking here at Middlebury simply because they are too lazy to walk to the North Dorm or Science Center lots. I believe that something must be done about the overabundance of Saabs in the parking lot, unless someone wants to buy me one, in which case I would argue for better parking. I think recent-graduate Mark Feldman '93.5 picks on Hieu and Dave far too much, and that RHA Ryan Jennings is a much better target.

I believe George Lucas used

(continued on page 7)

Editorial

Racial debate calls for change

The eruption of anger that took place at Sunday night's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting is indicative of the problems that plague racial relations at Middlebury. The controversy stemmed from a proposed financial aid bill which included language that many found insulting to minorities. The resulting debate, which could have been a period of learning for both whites and minority students, instead degenerated into emotional arguments, personal attacks and gross generalizations.

Both the process by which the members of the SGA Subcommittee on Financial Aid wrote the bill, and the angry exit of some who disputed its language demonstrate a lack of communication and understanding regarding race at Middlebury.

To begin with, despite the fact that a significant portion of the document is concerned with diversifying the college community, the authors of the bill failed to adequately communicate with members of minority organizations on campus. The document directly addressed the needs of minority students, but the language through which it did so was insensitive. In a document which is clearly one of the most important to emerge from student leadership in recent years, such an oversight can be disastrous and must be remedied. While the members of the SGA subcommittee have recognized their mistake, and plan on reworking the document after consultation with several groups in the coming weeks, the damage that has been done will not quickly be repaired.

Just as those responsible for the bill could have prevented Sunday night's unfortunate events, the students who were upset with the bill also could have used foresight to better resolve the situation. Leaders of the organizations that were present Sunday night received the financial aid document a week earlier and could have made efforts to inform the authors that there were serious concerns about the contents. Instead, what resulted was a standoff at the SGA meeting in which the unsuspecting assembly was verbally assaulted for the work of four members.

It is true that many in the SGA, even if they had read the entire document before the Sunday, might not have recognized the problems that minorities found so offensive. This points toward a greater problem on campus: That in many cases, members of different ethnic groups simply do not understand each other. If this is to be resolved, all parties involved must recognize that mistakes are going to be made, and that the best way to build off those mistakes is to make sure everyone understands why they were made.

Though Sunday's meeting saw tempers flare, important issues were raised and debated. The SGA is the forum best suited for flushing out controversial and sensitive campus issues, and would be well advised to charge a sub-committee with coordinating future discussions of racial issues. The small discussion groups and community forums that resulted from Sunday's incident are well intended, but often tend to lose focus, and are ultimately inadequate. On the other hand, the SGA committee could be specific in its goals to try and ensure substantive discussions which would attract a larger, more interested audience.

A few times every year there are eruptions such as the one witnessed Sunday night. While the most immediate step is to remedy the language and spirit of the bill, it is important that the lines of communication do not shut down as soon as that task is completed. If we allow things to go back to "normal," the campus will surely see more of the same. Instead of trying to forget the unpleasantness that comes with conflict, the Middlebury community needs to remember the events surrounding the financial aid bill and learn from the mistakes that were made so that they will not be repeated.

The Middlebury Campus

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SGA President explains report

On behalf of the SGA subcommittee on Financial Aid, I would like to say a few brief things. First, we sincerely apologize to any member of the community who found language in the document inconsiderate or hurtful. Our rush to complete the report on time led to misleading and inappropriate wording in several instances and we will endeavor to rectify this immediately. In addition, we felt that many issues pertaining to diversity and multiculturalism were aired at the recent SGA meeting which supersede the narrow context of financial aid and must continue to be discussed openly in the community.

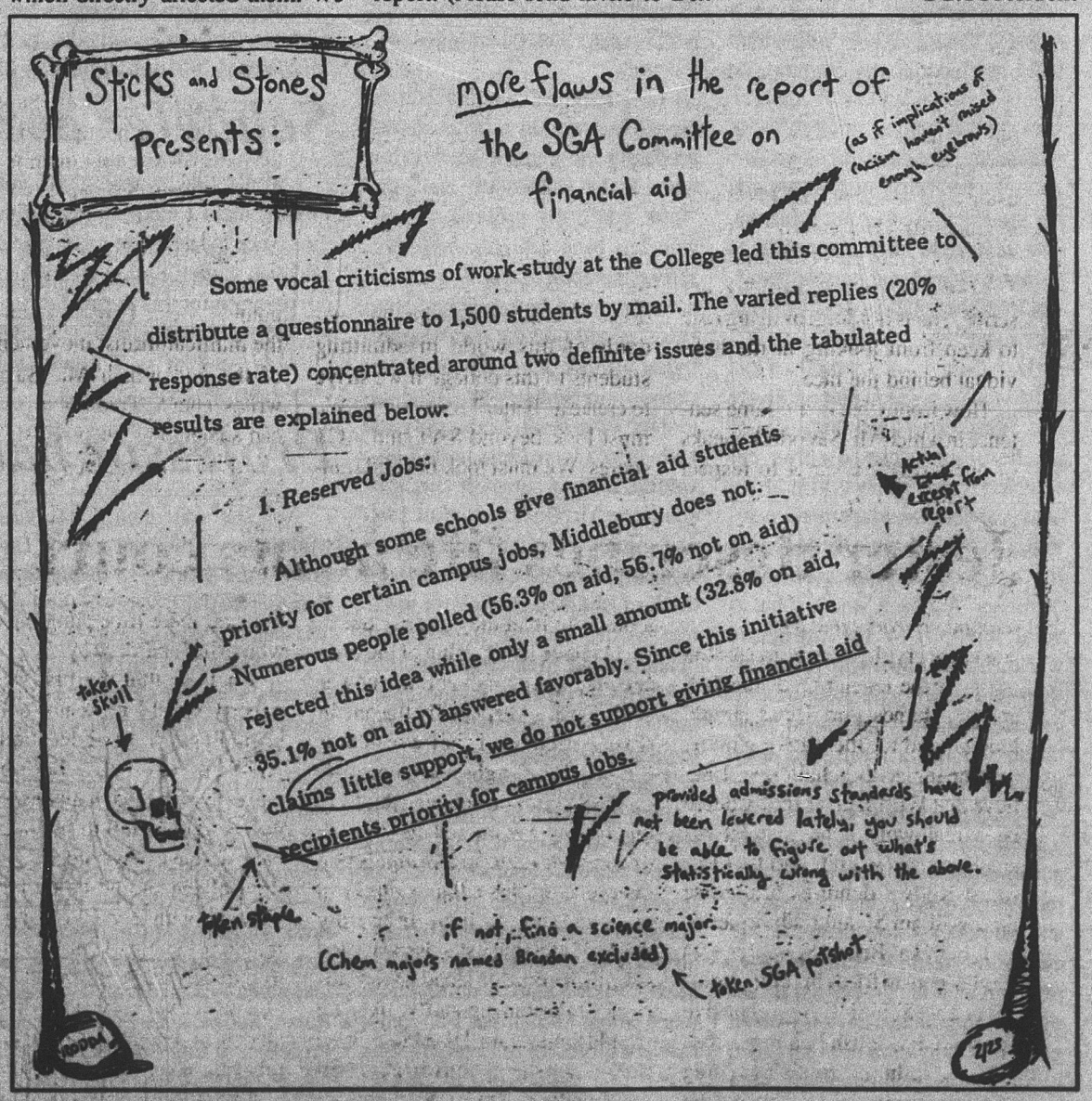
Second, at the SGA meeting, a few students voiced serious concern about some findings in the report regardless of appropriate or inappropriate language. In particular, individuals speaking on behalf of various student groups on campus expressed disappointment that they were not consulted previously about sections of the document which directly affected them. We mistakenly based most of our effort on information gained from members of the college administration and staff, journal articles, and published material from other institutions. For a student perspective, we relied too heavily on our own experiences and the anticipation of a thorough debate in the SGA.

Few other college administrations and perhaps no other student body have decided to tackle the seemingly impossible issues involved with financial aid as has Middlebury's community.

Therefore, our subcommittee wishes to solicit invitations from any student group or individual interested in the content of the current report. (Please send invite to Box D-11 or Box 3256) Two copies of the document will be available on reserve in Starr Library and we encourage people to read the document critically. We hope to participate in continued constructive discussions about the report with the aim of creating a revised document in which all students will feel represented.

Reforming and ensuring the longevity of financial aid represents a huge task. Few other college administrations and perhaps no other student body have decided to tackle the seemingly impossible issues involved with financial aid as has Middlebury's community. We must continue in our effort lest we go the way of others and surrender to passive acceptance and the safe practice of finger pointing. In a few weeks, everyone hopefully will point at only one thing: a thorough document about which everyone will feel excited and proud.

Brendan O'Leary '94
SGA President


Sticks and Stones Presents:
more flaws in the report of the SGA Committee on financial aid
(as if implications of racism haven't raised enough eyebrows)
Some vocal criticisms of work-study at the College led this committee to distribute a questionnaire to 1,500 students by mail. The varied replies (20% response rate) concentrated around two definite issues and the tabulated results are explained below:
1. Reserved Jobs:
Although some schools give financial aid students priority for certain campus jobs, Middlebury does not.
Numerous people polled (56.3% on aid, 56.7% not on aid) rejected this idea while only a small amount (32.8% on aid, 35.1% not on aid) answered favorably. Since this initiative claims little support, we do not support giving financial aid recipients priority for campus jobs.
Actual quote excerpt from report
taken skull
provided admissions standards have not been lowered lately, you should be able to figure out what's statistically wrong with the above.
if not, find a science major.
(Chem majors named Brendan excluded)
taken SGA potshot
taken staple
BOOM
ZAP

Seniors choose wrong class gift

As a member of the class of 1994 I will be called upon to contribute money to the senior class gift. The class agent who approaches me had better be prepared for a heavy dose of hostility and resentment.

My fellow seniors have voted for a pair of marble entrance posts to the renovated New Dorms complex and an outdoor lighted basketball court. The names of the class of '94 will supposedly be inscribed on the marble posts.

The letter I received from the senior class gift committee claimed that these gifts "represent the Class of 1994's support of the College's commitment to meet the ever-changing needs of its students."

Both gifts —*two* monuments of affluence!— embarrass me. The class of '94 has done nothing so significant at Middlebury that the names of its members deserve to be written in stone.

What about the classes of '61, '72 and '83? Where are their memorials? I don't want future students laughing at us. This is nauseating narcissism.

With the lighted courts, Club Midd students yet again display their determination to hone their bodies, narrow their minds and waste energy.

These gifts were chosen over such worthy ideas as supporting volunteer programs and purchasing land for wilderness preservation.

Posts and courts do not in any way meet the ever-changing needs of students, but instead reflect the pathetic state of our self-centeredness and indifference to matters of real importance. Advice to the class of 1993: Don't follow our path of lameness.

Ben Kimball '94

Racial contradictions highlighted

I am writing this letter in response to an column written by Mr. Peter Savodnik (February 18, 1994). Mr. Savodnik made some very essential points in his article concerning multiculturalism. I am in agreement with many of the points he includes in his article. What outrages me, however, and provokes me to write this letter is the hypocrisy evident in Mr. Savodnik's article. I would like to point out the inconsistency in his article and to express my sadness at Mr. Savodnik's misinterpretation of multiculturalism and the way in which it is used to achieve what are admirable goals of our society and of Middlebury College in particular.

I believe that Mr. Savodnik is correct in his assertion that Middlebury should "strive for excellence...[try to] rise above the regular, the norm, the real world." I also believe that which Mr. Savodnik chooses to phrase as a question, that, "race-blind, gender-blind competition [is] the only way to ensure equality and justice for all." Nonetheless, I am not sure whether or not he realizes that at present, the real world itself is neither race-blind nor gender-blind.Evidence of this exists in Mr. Savodnik's own article where in using a quote to back up his stance against Mr. Hengst, he writes, "Shelby Steele, the black author of *The Content of Our Character*, describes [race-holding] as using race to keep from looking at the individual behind the face."

How ironic that in the same sentence in which Mr. Savodnik speaks of one writer's attempt to respect the individual for who he is and not for the color of his skin, he inserts a description of the race of the author he quotes! I am not going to second-guess the meaning behind Mr. Savodnik's use of this description. I am simply pointing out the ridiculous and contradictory effect of his statement.

In arguing that "we need more intelligent, thought-provoking students," Mr. Savodnik is absolutely correct. However, what evidence does he have to support an argument that diversity and multiculturalism work against this goal? Mr. Savodnik's inherent implication is that racial diversity at present does not reflect intelligence. He is implying that Middlebury College in reaching out to students from different backgrounds is not selecting intelligent, thought-provoking students. If Mr. Savodnik would like to enlighten us on how he has encountered individuals here who do not meet his standards of intelligence and thought-provocation and relate these individuals to race he ought to do so. In such a case, he would risk only exposing his own opinion and not ridiculing himself by condescendingly judging intellect.

In any case, how does he propose we evaluate the students who apply to this college who have grown up in the "real world?" This real world has discriminated against many individuals and continues to do so. We cannot accept the standards of this world in admitting students to this college if we strive to create a "better" community. We must look beyond SAT and ACT scores. We must look beyond transcripts and look to the individual. Were we not to do this, we would not achieve anything "better" and we would remain stagnant in the same homogenous community which occupied this college in 1800. Ignorance pervades in homogenous communities. The only homogeneity we must accept here at Middlebury is the ability of all students to survive in the academic environment of this college.

I believe that Middlebury College along with many other small, liberal arts colleges in America is beginning to realize that the homogeneity which exists at this school is detrimental to the development of the college. Middlebury needs to realize that many forms of discrimination in our society are present from the start of an individual's life. We need to create the opportunity for this discrimination to be overcome. Middlebury College and the community it creates and promotes is one way in which to start the emergence of that same community nationwide.

Mr. Savodnik is correct in his statement that "the end of the multiculturalist movement is the dismemberment of traditional, American society." Mr. Savodnik does not inject his opinion on the ideals of multiculturalism in a direct manner, however. Instead, he chooses to make statements about the multiculturalist movement in a factual manner from an outsider's point of view. I am a supporter of the multiculturalist movement and of the end which Mr. Savodnik writes about. Traditional, American society has been racist, sexist

(continued on page 8)

Jester describes life at his court

(continued from page 5)

some apocryphal scripture as the basis for the teachings of the Jedi and that James Earl Jones should look around for the role of a mute, just for the acting challenge. I believe that Wolf Blitzer really could be a real wolf if he just let his sideburns grow a bit, and that Deforest Kelly's dentures are worse than William Shatner's hairpiece.

I believe Brian Schaefer '94 should learn to focus his complaints about the Senior Comprehensive Program in English in a more constructive fashion; childish whining and finger-pointing at those who have a lot more knowledge and ability in a given field is not logical. One of my graders gave me a "C+" on a Comps essay, yet have I used the college's newspaper for a libellous retaliation?

I believe the anonymous professor who dared give me, Eugene Judd Swift, a "C+" on one of my Comps essays should meet me on Batell Field this Saturday night, alone, for a personal discussion of the matter ... and remember: alone and unarmed (after all, people with guns *kill* people) or else I'm going straight to the *Addision Independent* ...

I believe everyone needs to laugh a bit more than they already do.

I believe in the value of the one-sentence paragraph and the power of the dash — especially the one in this sentence. I believe Peter Savodnik was right when he wrote on the distinction between thinking and feeling, yet missed the strength of his own logic in assuming that everyone on this campus *thinks* in his own linear fashion. If he truly thinks Middlebury stands today, and should continue to stand, as a "hallmark of Puritan ingenuity," then he should think again. I *think* he missed the word "culture" in "multiculturalism" and therefore missed the point that diversity is not simply about whether "all African-Americans think the same," but rather in the merging and mingling of different cultures, and therefore, different manners of thought.

I believe that the drunken destruction that goes on here each and every weekend, in the dorms and on the campus as a whole, is inexcusable and deserves stronger measures than the fines which are scoffed at by those who do the damage and anger those who do not.

I believe Vermont and the nation should realize that young people drink, and spend less time, energy and money enforcing age-legislation and more time pursuing those who drink and destroy.

I believe that the first signs of puberty should mark not only the beginnings of sex-education, but AIDS education as well, or before we realize what has happened, there will be no-one left to find a cure. I believe that every student entering this college should be required to sit down with Bob Cluss and learn the facts known about this disease as part of first-year orientation.

I want a slang term for first-year student: although inoffensive, it just takes too long to say.

I wish people would return the movies they borrow from me promptly without any effort on my part, and I want my copies of *Animal House* and *Life of Brian* back from the those who stole them when I was a first-year ... oh forget it.

Lastly, I would just like to mention that I loathe the tedious and endlessly recycled (they win the Green-Cup in my book) arguments which usually fill these Opinions pages, and that I will be devoting my future articles on those aspects and elements of Middlebury behavior and phenomenon which merit the opinionated wisdom of a fool ...

The Fool exits with a flourish.

Ship of Fools

Derek Lounsbury

The Clinton Administration, last week, announced another crisis: As many as seven million Americans were homeless at some point in the late 1980s. Last spring, President Clinton ordered an interagency group to draft a plan that would end homelessness. The *New York Times* reports that the draft represents "a departure from a 12-year standoff between advocates for the homeless and Government officials about the scope and cause of homelessness ... [marking] the first time the Government has called homelessness a large-scale problem that demands a large Federal response."

The plan identifies poverty, racism and budget cuts as the chief causes of the increase in homelessness. The plan recommends increasing HUD's (Housing andUrban Development) housing assistance budget and including housing costs when figuring the tax credits allotted to low-income workers. It also recommends expanding programs for the mentally ill, including aggressive efforts to get disturbed people into treatment.

Martha Burt of the Urban Institute comments, "It's remarkable, in contrast to the Reagan and Bush years, in its recognition of the scope and complexity of the homeless problem." The homeless problem is indeed quite complex, significantly more complex than the Reagan, Bush or Clinton Administrations would lead you to believe. The current administration's claim of seven million homeless is, however, deceptive. Martha Burt's very same Urban Institute estimated the homeless figure at 600,000 only three years ago — a far cry from seven million. At the same time, the Census Bureau's estimate totaled 272,000 homeless. The Clinton report aggregates the total number of individuals who were homeless *at some point* in the late 1980s. In response to critics, administration officials claim that the figures of 600,000 and 7 million are consistent. Peter Rossi in *Without Shelter* reports that the average homeless person spends 25.6 months at a time on the street. This indicates that the Clinton estimate would correspond to a "snap-shot" homeless figure of 3.7 million, much higher than the well-respected Urban Institute estimate.

Beyond the figures and deceptions, homelessness is a real problem that affects the United States, just as it affects nearly every industrialized country of the world. A wealthy society, such as ours, has the responsibility to combat the structural factors that foster homelessness. Poverty, racism and budget cuts, however, are clearly simple explanations for a complex problem.

Poverty is clearly a cause of homelessness; homeless people do not typically have much money. Racism is an immeasurable quality, a buzzword, that the Clinton administration uses to explain why a higher percentage of minorities are homeless than are whites. And, contrary to popular belief, the Reagan administration *increased* spending on HUD projects.

The Republicans have traditionally cited factors such as drug and alcohol abuse and mental illness as the driving forces behind the homeless problem. A compilation of forty empirical studies reveals that 34 percent of the homeless are rated as chronic mentally ill, while another 33 percent are alcoholics. Evidence indicates that another 6 percent of the homeless claim to *choose* their lifestyle, so-called wanderlust. It is clear that many homeless people either bring their plight upon themselves — through choice, alcoholism, or drugs — or are mentally handicapped. Those who do not choose, deserve help through mental institutions and drug and alcohol programs. Unfortunately, a large number are still victims of structural problems.

The decay of the inner-cities, increase in illegitimacy, lack of educational opportunities in certain areas and expansion of government programs all have had a major impact on not only homelessness, but on crime, poverty and a host of other problems as well. Poverty is certainly the prevailing factor, but neither the direct, nor the root cause. I will limit this discussion to the more direct causes of homelessness; those that we can more readily rectify.

Lack of affordable housing, technological advances and the globalization of companies coupled with a high minimum wage have dramatically increased the number of poor and homeless people in this (and other Western) countries.

Inexpensive single-room-occupancy (SRO) hotels that formerly accommodated otherwise would-be homeless people have decreased in number to virtual nonexistence. SROs offered rooms at between $2 and $4 a night (at current dollars). As social security benefits expanded in the 1970s, levels of homelessness dropped and many of these SRO's and similar cubicle-style apartments gave way to grand hotels and department stores.

Technological advances, immigration from Latin America and movement of production facilities abroad began to erode the jobs upon which unskilled labor relied. Many "homeless" saw their opportunity for seasonal and part-time work disappear and with that came their inability to pay the increasingly high levels of rent.

The government's answer to the problem has been HUD and various housing subsidies. Unfortunately, spending has been misdirected and ineffective, lining the pockets of landowners and attracting

(continued on page 8)

Director of program defends integrity of Comps and faculty

(continued from page 5)

I hope the above review makes clear, but Professor Sudan on her own initiative invited four members of the senior staff to visit several of her classes this fall. These visits only served to confirm our sense of her dedicated, resourceful and effective teaching.

"Specifically," Mr. Schaefer writes, "my complaint with Sudan is that I think she evaluated me unfairly on the oral section of the exam." He attributes this to her "newness" and her "nastiness." Mr. Schaefer fails to mention how the oral exam is structured: four students make individual presentations and then compare and contrast their literary selections for two hours in the presence of two instructors. In this case, the other instructor was not only the most senior member of the English Department, but the most senior member of the entire faculty, with over 40 years of teaching experience at Middlebury. The orals grade is determined by consultations and both instructors must agree on the grade. Therefore, Professor Sudan could not by herself have assigned a grade to Mr. Schaefer's performance.

Professor Sudan is alleged by Mr. Schaefer to have "misinterpreted a remark I made, and launched an attack for several minutes based on her misinterpretation. She didn't stop until she was satisfied I looked bad."

This is at once a conveniently vague and slanderous characterization of what I understand to have been a brief period of appropriately sharp questioning. It also insults the other instructor, implying that he just sat there, 40 years' experience and all, while Mr. Schaefer was gratuitously abused. I myself worked with Professor Sudan in one orals group, and I found her to be a vigorous, tough-minded and scrupulously fair examiner; we agreed on all four grades with absolutely no debate. Mr. Schaefer condescendingly sneers that, despite Professor Sudan's attack, he "only felt sorry for her. Her job search is, after all, now more urgent than my own." Let me point out that Professor Sudan (who, in addition to being a talented teacher, also has an outstanding record of significant scholarly publication) is currently being considered for tenure-track positions at major university departments of literature across the country.

The rest of Mr. Schaefer's letter descends into self-indulgent rant about the worthlessness of the entire Comps program and concludes with a general condemnation of the English Department faculty and the major as a whole. It would be too tedious to attempt to restore to the state of rational discourse his illogical and splenetic diatribe. Had he ever bothered to seek me out (as I repeatedly urged all students to do if there were any problems), I would have listened to his complaints and tried to deal with them patiently. Instead, he chose to publicly and undeservedly malign one of my colleagues, identifying her by name and traducing and calumniating her without cause, without reason and without truth. For this reason he deserves a severe and public rebuke.

David Price
Professor of English
Director of Comps

Create diverse system

(continued from page 7)

and discriminatory against individuals for a variety of reasons. I see nothing wrong with attempting to disband this system and create one in which these conditions are not so omnipresent.

What confuses me even more in Savodnik's article is when he again proceeds to do exactly what he previously stated is unacceptable — to categorize individuals. He writes that someone who, "cares about [Mr. Hengst] a lot is paying a fortune ... " I am not certain as to the financial status of Mr. Hengst. In any case I would simply like to point out that it is irrelevant in arguing against his opinions. Mr. Hengst is able to write letters to The Campus for the same reasons Mr. Savodnik and myself are permitted to freely express ourselves: The U.S. Constitution guarantees us this right and *The Campus* has chosen to uphold it.

Mr. Savodnik would like to see us compete intellectually without regard to categories. He will have to begin by doing so himself. He does not need to inform us of Mr. Hengst's financial status nor Mr. Steele's racial status unless he believes that it has bearing on his argument, in which case, it contradicts his argument.

His closing paragraph emphasizes what he writes in his final sentence, "Indeed, we are being racist." I am absolutely in agreement with him that "Middlebury must open its doors to those students who are intellectually stimulated and academically driven." Furthermore, "if we address the color of their skin, we are doing a disservice to both those students and to the community at large." How correct he is! In recruiting these students, however, we must expand our horizons and be sure to include those which the greater society has marginalized and discriminated against. I am almost positive that Middlebury does not admit every student of color who applies and that those which it admits are those who can survive academically at this college. The academic system here would not permit for anything less.

I applaud Mr. Savodnik's expression of opinion despite the obvious contradictions present in his writing. Dialogue between individuals is essential to finding solutions to the problems which plague our society. Mr. Savodnik, I believe, however, should stop hiding behind his own self-proclaimed "intellect" and self-induced "race-holding."

I have noticed how in Mr. Savodnik's article he is hesitant to use the personal pronoun "I" even though he evidently has strong feelings on the subject. Instead, he hides behind group intellect and asserts that his own views are a reflection of what is definitively correct. Where is his individualism?

I would like to hear Mr. Savodnik's viewpoint and not just a random counter-argument against Mr. Hengst in which he installs none of his own opinions except in a subtle and confusing manner. Is he afraid of writing what he truly thinks? Is he afraid of uncovering the truth?

May-May Wang '94

Student defends program

(continued from page 5)

institution which Brian attends, Sudan deserves his respect for doing her job and teaching students like him. You'd think that she might be able to do that without being publicly attacked by someone who simply doesn't like her, and who has much less training and experience than she has.

I like where Schaefer was going with his Fantasyland analogy, but I think what we got a glimpse of in his opinion piece is more like Lack-of-Respect Land, because nowhere else would he be able to pull off slandering a superior and then get away with it.

I wonder if Brian would have written the same piece about a professor who had a few more years of teaching in his or her past. Probably not.

If I were Rajani Sudan right now, I wouldn't even want a position to open up for me at Middlebury.

Teresa Cooper '94

Lounsbury tackles homelessness

(continued from page 7)

people who would not otherwise be on Skid Row (yes, in poverty, but not homeless). The first line of action is to commit those (34 percent) who are mentally ill to institutions. As well, we need to place those (33 percent) who are alcoholics or drug abusers in treatment programs. The remaining, who are primarily victims of structural problems (and in some cases, choice), demand more far-reaching measures.

Lower or eliminate the minimum wage. Jobs leave this country, companies use more capital-intensive techniques, and illegal immigrants work at one or two dollars per hour because the minimum wage is so high. The globalization of the economy means that unskilled labor needs to either become skilled, accept lower wages or become unemployed. The minimum wage sometimes affords the individual only the option of unemployment. He cannot gain the initial employment to become skilled, so he may never learn the skills he needs to become self-sufficient. Clearly, the prospect of making only $3 per hour for several years is grim, but so is that of life on the street and continued dependence on the government.

Ideally, our educational system would provide nearly everyone with the means to become skilled labor; supply of unskilled labor would decrease and wages would increase accordingly.

Social programs and a high minimum wage only prolong and facilitate the condition of poverty and, in some cases, homelessness. Government should end ineffective funding for housing subsidies, HUD assistance and similar programs, and focus attention on root problems such as education. As government programs end, demand for cheap housing would increase and SRO-style accommodations would once again become a profitable enterprise and fit the need of the currently homeless. A person making $3 per hour ($24 per day) would be able to afford a $5 room (typically 25 percent of income goes to housing costs).

Gradually ending housing subsidies, HUD assistance and lowering the minimum wage are seemingly radical (and painful) solutions. Unfortunately, the increase in international competition leaves the United States (and European nations) with little choice. Social programs that help the unproductive members of society also serve to increase the cost of products, decreasing competitiveness in the global market. As a result, U.S. businesses and citizens correspondingly suffer.

The Clintons are very crisis-oriented and with mid-term elections quickly approaching homelessness has emerged as yet another dismal outcome of the misguided Reagan and Bush administrations.

MARK FELDMAN

Look Who's Graduated

I love America, don't get me wrong. I'm just as patriotic as the next guy: I buy "Made in the U.S.A." cotton shirts, drive a Plymouth and explode more than my fair share of firecrackers every Fourth of July. But honestly, I just couldn't give a frog's foot about the Winter Olympics.

First of all, it's in Lillehammer, which immediately should send you warning lights that this is going to be the most super-hyped up media-covered event since Michael Jackson showed a little too much T.L.C. to a young boy (like that event wasn't blown too much out of proportion). Who's the guy who gets to decide where the Olympics get to be held anyway? Lillehammer? Where's that supposed to be, Munchkinland? Personally, I think if the media was really smart, they would have paid someone to get the thing moved to the Bronx. Light the torch in Yankees Stadium and then, take it into the streets. Imagine the announcers. "We're standing across the street from the Third Avenue Bridge as the Russian team gets ready for their second run on the bobsled. The Russians were a little disappointed with their first run time of one hour and seventeen minutes. They were on record-breaking pace after the first leg of the race when they ran into a small group of street punks who delayed them.

"However, without their watches and wallets, the Russian team is now lighter and more streamlined for the upcoming run. Let's hope Vladmir's eye doesn't swell up too much when the cold air hits it. As they get ready, let's quickly go to Chuck over at Rikers' Island covering the inmate wrestling event."

I will admit some of the events are kind of cool. Mogul skiing, ski-jumping and the downhill events are good. Basically, any event where participants go at insane speeds and face impending death (or really serious pain) if they wipe out is worth watching. But luge? What the heck is a luge? It sounds like something you might find in a used Kleenex. But every four years, the world becomes fascinated with speculating who is going to take the luge event. And the thing about all these events is that if you mess up by like, four hundredths of a second, you end up tied with Argentina for forty-seventh place.

Imagine if the everyday world was run with Olympic time-standards. You show up five minutes late for work, you're not only

(continued on page 10)

New Dorms' renovations making headway

By Darcy Normand

Tiffany Claflin

New Dorm renovations make headway despite the problems caused by the freeze this winter.

Remember the end of last year? All students heard about was the impending renovations on the New Dorms: How they were behind schedule, or how students would have to switch dorms at the end of the year.

Now, with only one interruption in the normal flow of activity (the cutting off of power from the New Dorms and Barnes, so it could be restored to Hadley), no one on campus seems to mind, or know exactly what is going on up there.

Everyone can hear a variety of noises, see clouds of dust, and just wonder about what is happening. Even the residents of the New Dorms wonder what the loud crashes are about at eight o'clock in the morning.

Although it may not always be desireable, students living in Milliken and Kelly are able to see and hear the daily progress occurring in the Hadley renovation.

At present, the renovations don't look like much, except for a large sheet covering much of Hadley. In the future, this will all be changed. Right now, the residents of the New Dorms just wait.

Among all of this bustling activity are the noisy machines, the construction materials and the many people that are contributing to the completion of the largest renovation project in Middlebury history.

The renovation is nearing the end of the first phase, which includes the demolition and gutting of Hadley as well as the demolition of the three foot overhang on Ross.

Phil O'Halloran, who works solely on demolition, explained that his day consists of a brief job meeting in the morning and then a day of jack hammering, blasting and clearing.

Currently he is working on the roof of Ross, clearing the overhang so that Milliken may be extended, connecting it with Hadley. O'Halloran, having taken a look at the other New Dorms, said that he "cannot wait to get [his] hands on Milliken."

Although the cold has hampered progress somewhat, the workers have endured snow and cold, and have dedicated themselves to completion of a job in which they take much pride.

By eight o'clock each morning the whistle of construction equipment can be heard as another day of work begins.

Because of the cold, renovation plans are about three weeks behind schedule. Dave Cousino, a construction worker, said that currently the workers are beginning to set the staging so that stone work may be put up on the exterior of Hadley.

Doug Williamson, project manager, directs the activity of the workers and is responsible for the budget. He says that it is difficult to coordinate all of the workers and get an organized process started up so fast. "Even so," he says, "many parts of the renovations are right on schedule."

The workers are busy completing the framing of Hadley, and beginning the exterior stonework. Additionally, they began the digging of a new foundation for Ross Lounge so that there can be a basement and the blasting of Ross. Williamson says that Hadley is due to be complete by June 1, while the total project will be finished by June 1995.

It is obvious that the construction workers will be enjoying the spring thaw after many months of hard work during the bitter winter months. They hope to regain the lost time and complete the project on schedule.

Tiffany Claflin

Sophomores Lutton and Thomas practice in front of Hepburn.

Singers realize dreams

By Elizabeth Del Colliano

Pipe dreams are sweet things, lingering in the air just beyond reality. There is something satisfying about the attitude of one who actually reaches for what they dream about — it speaks of a certain brand of spirit, determination and confidence.

The college atmosphere can be the place where pipe dreams take on substance, and where the future of these endeavors spreads wide open.

With opportunities everywhere one might look, it is easy to find new activities. Every college is full of people who look ahead to the future, and Middlebury is no exception.

Two women, in the great tradition of dream-grabbing, have begun to take their interests to the public, being seen, and more importantly, heard. With just one guitar and two voices, they have moved from the private to the public arena.

This year, sophomores Laura Thomas and Lindsay Lutton have began reaching for their dreams as performers.

The beginnings never seem to be exceptional — there was no magic bolt that struck and inspired song for either of them. For Lutton, her musical beginnings were under the Christmas tree last year, when Santa offered her a guitar. To complete the picture, her next door neighbor liked to sing. Late night sessions confined to playing one Indigo Girls' song over and over became a pasttime.

What was a fun thing to do in the private space of a dorm room became a passion the first Parents' Weekend this year, when the two decided to perform in the talent show.

Thomas remembers the turning point, saying, "It was such a great experience!" While the excitement of achieving an aspiration can fuel the hopeful, there is nothing that compares to the boost of confidence that accompanies public approval.

And the proverbial ball started rolling: another talent show, a faux "coffee house" in the Arts Center, the Gamut Room, and even time at the Amigo's mike, widened the scope of performance places for the singers.

Both agreed that this exposure encouraged them to keep expanding the repertoire of songs, chiefly drawing from what Lutton calls "folksy alternative" groups, such as the Indigo Girls, Cowboy Junkies and The Story.

(continued on page 12)

J-Term attitudes slide into spring

By Gene Swift

As I write this article on the beginnings of Spring Term 1994, the temperature is a comfortable 58 degrees. There are people in shorts and T-shirts out there instead of the usual coats, gloves and chinchilla hats. With such a clear signal that spring is almost upon us, how could there possibly be any difficulty for students making the transition into Spring Term?

Almost all of the problems students have encountered during these first few days of the new semester can be traced back to Middlebury's trimester, 4-1-4 system of academia. After all, we students slave our way through a seemingly-endless autumn, coming off the freedom and happiness of the summer months, and then are granted a reprieve from the daily grind in the form of the Winter Term. Instead of four classes, students and teachers take/teach only one, facilitating a focused mind and a relaxed body.

And then, before anyone knows exactly what is happening, Spring Term arrives and spoils everyone's fun. The faculty, despite their seemingly professional exterior, grumble at the prospect of multiple classes and discussion sections, and lash out at the poor, helpless student body with massive syllabi, huge reading lists and 450 pages due for the second class meeting.

The student body responds, in an equally juvenile fashion, by clinging to all those nasty habits we developed over J-Term, such as drinking heavily every night and destroying the dorms in which we live, wandering into class five minutes late with a cup of coffee and a bagel, and complaining about Comps (OK, only some of us haven't learned to grow up, accept our grades and put such things behind us.)

The faculty, despite their seemingly professional exterior, grumble at the prospect of multiple classes and discussion sections, and lash out at the poor, helpless student...

The point is: Winter Term and Spring Term are two completely different atmospheres. To expect one to leap boldly from the former to the latter without adverse effects is downright silly (show me the person who came into Spring Term prepared for what was to come, and I'll show you someone who wasted their break).

One might expect the Otter Nonsense Players, a group trained in using the tools of improvisation to make light of any situation, would have an easy time adapting to the random suggestions of professors. However, this expectation does not hold true. While Stephanie Tucker '94 said, "I found it invigorating ... my last semester at Middlebury!", her diametric opposite, Brooke Capps '97 stated, "I discovered I'm still embarking on this journey called college." Other Otters were indifferent towards the new semester. Ever-articulate and lucid Brendan O'Leary '94 called his work this past week "the same-o' same-o'." Margaret Wright '94, a survivor of the Senior Comps stated this past week, "felt like my J-Term, because I didn't get a real one."

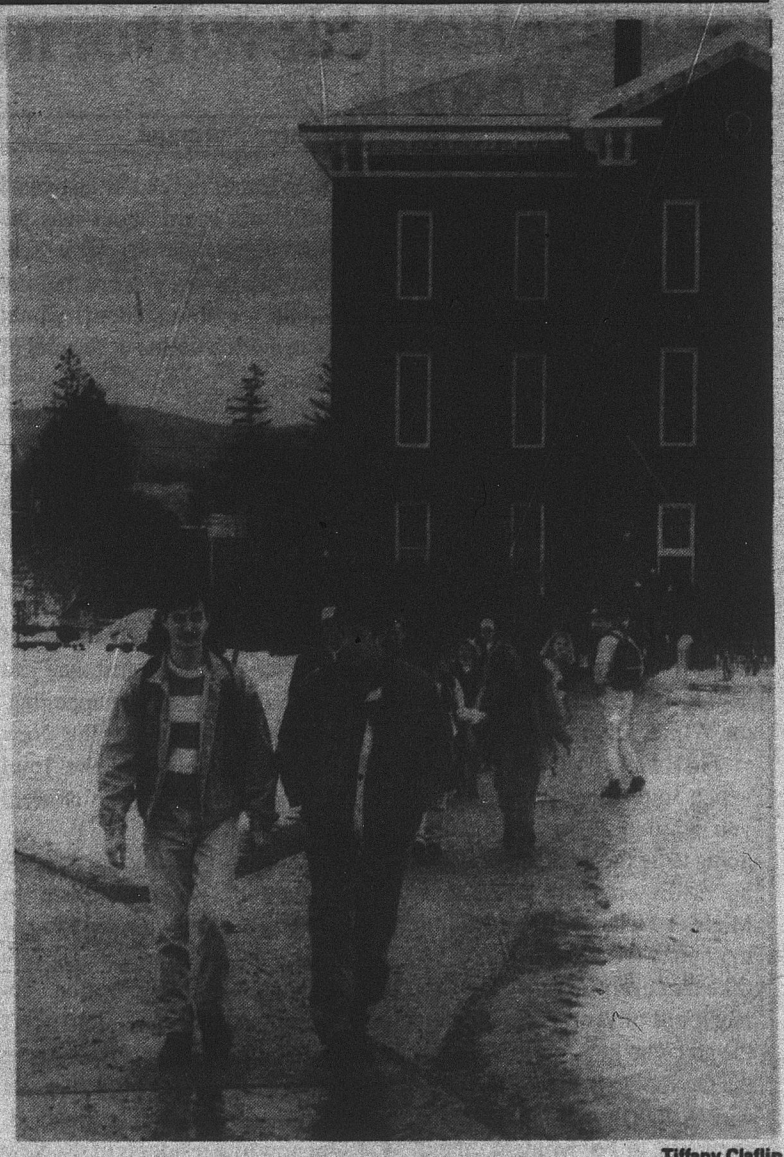
Coert Voorhees '96 and Emma Ansara '96 seemed fairly overwhelmed initially by the arrival the Spring Semester, but now have things under control. "I've been busy as hell — I was ridiculously over my head," said Voorhees with a laugh, while Ansara's forehead wrinkled in frustration.

"You seem torn between many different foci," she said, then noting her J-Term internship away from the campus continued, "plus you want to catch up with people you haven't seen for a while."Frankly, there are only a few ways to truly make the transition smoother:

1) Contact your professors by fax during break and transfer the syllabi to a computerized day-planner, while ordering the texts from the publishers directly.

2) Make believe J-Term is truly not over, and call your former professors on a daily basis asking them when the class is going to meet.

3) Ski in the Feb ceremony at Breadloaf, get an internship at the Addison Independent and then bum around entertaining others ... after all, if the problem with Spring Term is the classload, graduate early and just hang out for a while.



Tiffany Claflin

J-Term attitudes follow students well into the spring semester.

Feldman's Graduated

(continued from page 9)

fired but they've already hired a new guy who has done more for the company than you have in the last two years. Instead of people using phrases like, "I'll be with you in a minute," they say, "I'll be with you in 59.53, okay?" Domino's Pizza now promises to deliver before you can hang up the phone or it's free.

Everything in the Olympics is speed, speed, speed. That's the whole thing. We have enough deadlines in our lives as it is. Maybe that's why we enjoy watching the Olympics so much. We sit down in front of the TV, watching as Thor Babahoofenfoos attempts to shave .35 seconds off his best time in the giant slalom just to snag a bronze. Suddenly that paper due next Friday some time before five o'clock doesn't seem all that pressing.

Still, I wouldn't mind seeing a few events in which contestants could just take their time and do something really constructive. Like how about ice-sculpting? It's winterish in theme and a lot of people really enjoy looking at a nice piece of crafted ice.

Or maybe a cooking event where participants would compete to see who can make the best filet mignon with vegetables au gratin. If you had to have a speed-related event you could do a fastest team to hard boil an egg event. That would be good.

Well, I suppose I shouldn't really complain too much. After all, we only have to put up with this stuff twice a decade.

So let me just end by saying, "Go for the gold, U.S.A. Give 'em everything you got." I'd write more on the subject but unfortunately, I've only got five minutes to get to work.

I think I can get there in 4:59:23.

CAMPUS VOICES

What event are you most looking forward to for Winter Carnival?

■" The luge — I want to see how many people we can fit in the canoe!"
—Derry Mason '96

■"The Ball — I finally have a girlfriend for it!"
—Scott Godes '94

■"Nothing except for good food, time with my friends — that's all there is to life really."
—Teaque Lenahan '94

■"Definitely not the ball — 'cause I don't have a date!"
—Allison O'Hare '94

Compiled by Elizabeth DelCollano
Photos by Tiffany Claflin

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Ice climber captures essence of perils atop Adirondacks

By Mash Alexander

Martha Newell

Ice climbers dare to brave the frozen waterfalls where few others ever consider exploring.

European climbers developed ice axes and cramp-ons at the end of the 19th century to climb peaks in the Alps. Mountaineering, however, has evolved away from the path of least resistance and into the raw nature of risk and challenge.

The concept of arriving at a summit has grown more symbolic than visible as people have left the easy ways to the top and avoided the actual summits altogether.

People are now even climbing frozen waterfalls. Anyone who has hiked through nature in winter knows the sublime allure of frozen solitude, but why would people climb ice, let alone mountains?

My partner, Flash Clark '92, who has recently returned from the Nordic ski nationals in Alaska, sounds the familiar staccato sequence of progress up a waterfall.

The kick and crunch of cramp-on front-points combines with the resonating thuds of ice axes as they stick into plastic ice to provide a powerful rhythm through the naked limbs of birch and maple trees that click and clack together like fingers on glass.

I look up to admire the Champlain Valley, a patchwork quilt of pastoral winter. Squares of white fields checkerboard the landscape in and among wooded streams, corn silos and farmhouses.

Plumes of smoke rise from wood stoves as twilight shoots across the land igniting pastures red, adding a certain mysticism to the scene.

Austere Adirondack Mountains float on the horizon as snow covered slides and ridgelines catch pink from the sun to contrast their wooded saddles and slopes that blend with low clouds and mist over the lake.

Climbing here, along the west face of South Mountain in the Bristol Cliffs Wilderness, is my favorite way to enjoy winter.

A slow trickle in the summer, this cliff supports a remarkable flow of ice in winter.

Thick and blue and yellow it cascades over the edge like frozen lava to fall 60 feet in a vertical curtain that stretches about 100 feet in width. The flow then billows its way 200 feet down the face with intermittent vertical sections before falling into snow and rocks below. Sometimes the blue hue is the dead give away but the long white stripe of ice is always outstanding, and beckoning.

As Flash climbs higher, coming near the crest, I find myself peering over the edge to try and catch a glimpse of his helmet or his tools.

I can't see him but know he's thinking about nothing more than the ice immediately before him.

I look up again to follow tendrils of tree limbs that reach out over the edge and into the sky to notice the sun reflected red off frozen Lake Champlain.

The Adirondack Mountains rise up like arrows to God and I contemplate the endless winter waterfalls yet to be climbed. Ice climbing may embody the spirit of the frontier.

There are certainly easier ways to ascend mountains and people are rightfully curious why climbers seek such paths. It just seems so stupid, such an unnecessary risk. Climbers, for the most part, are misunderstood as egotistical.

Anyone who has been this close to the edge will tell you that egos can kill. The best climbers lack ego in moments of transcendence on the rock or ice and just fail to translate the same modesty among barstools and friends. It's the humility that saves you, the respect.

While climbers might appear as rebellious outlaws undaunted by fear, unchecked by reality with no concept of limits, they are in fact quite in touch with who they are and what their limits are. They just believe in pushing their limits, knowing that all things are born to change.

People push limits out of instinct, to see what is possible and climb for many different reasons. Symbolically we climb mountains every day.

We set goals for ourselves and strive to achieve them with determination, experiencing peaks in relationships and valleys in dealing with responsibilities.

We always move on because it's part of life. Climbing real mountains or vertical ice, then, is really no different than reaching out to a friend or putting in your time at the library. Climbing just condenses the process of seeking into a tangible moment where goals are met in person.

You believe in yourself, you believe in your desires and you respond with action.

The old adage that we climb mountains simply because they are there could be expanded with philosophy but the reasons are certainly different for everyone.

It seems to have something to do with self respect and self confidence, fulfilling a desire to celebrate life while practicing patience and balance and concentration. Some call it meditation, some compare it to ballet, but no matter what we discern from enlarging solitude, it is unique for everyone and very personal.

Maybe climbers are trying to teach us about communicating with the soul, through nature, by living on the edge.

Climbing may be a way for some people to act out their dreams with open eyes to see what is possible.

Since we may never know, since we may never actually arrive, stuck like Sisyphus — up the mountain only to come down and climb it again, perhaps then we should pause sometime along the way to feel at home on the journey, focused on the destination but content with the climb.

Since we, as human beings, are defined by where we are and how we got here, it seems that the heart of climbing may rest in the quest for a true sense of place both within the body and within nature.

Volunteers plan out new semester

By Shamoil Shipchandler

Although Volunteer Services may not be the largest organizations on campus, it certainly contributes the most to the surrounding Middlebury community.

The organization, made up of a few dedicated members, had its first meeting of the spring semester on Monday. In this meeting, the members planned out many of the activities that non-profit organizations in town so desperately need.

The volunteers opened the meeting discussing the previous week's Community Breakfast, which "was a huge success. There was a lot of volunteers that showed up. The only problem was that it was aimed at the Febs and no Febs showed up!" said Susanne Horn '96.

How to involve more students has always been a major question, as many of the volunteers who participate in the original volunteer preview drop out of the organization.

"It would be great to get more Middlebury students involved in the program," said Pete Schermerhorn '96. Horn continued that "We need to emphasize a group effort rather than an individual effort, and have students become involved."

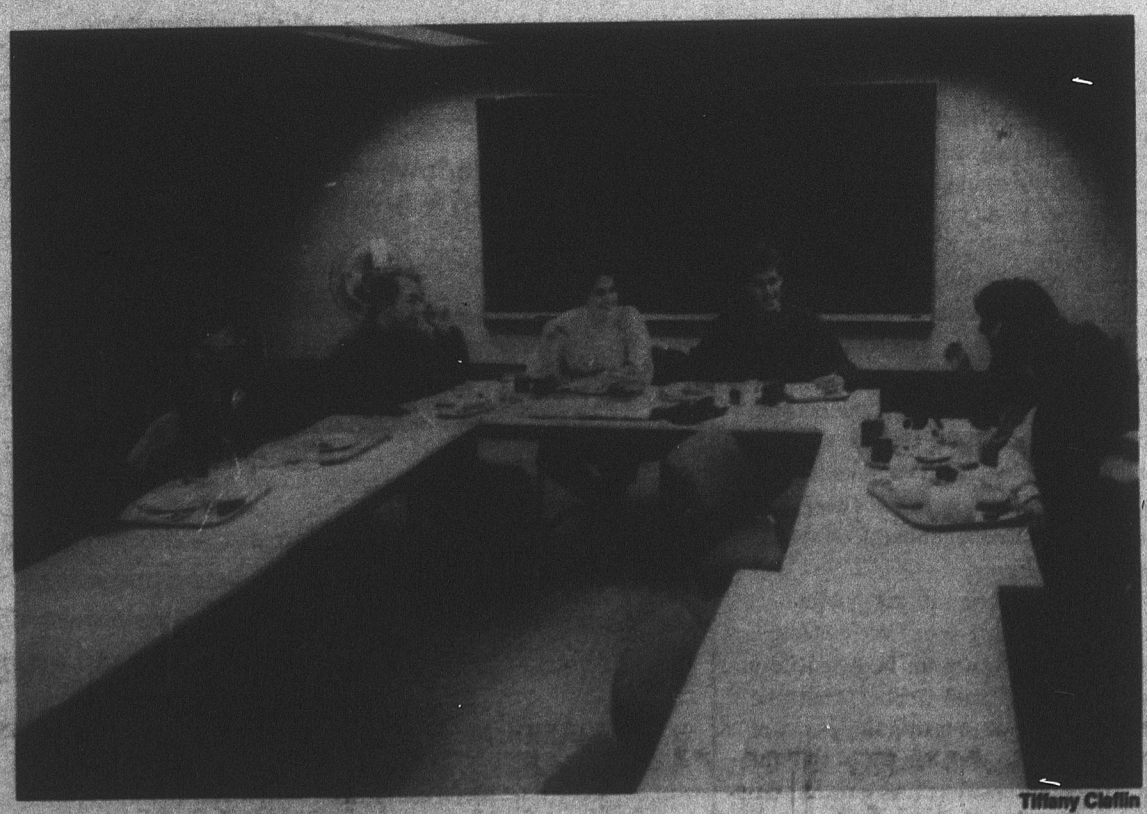
One way that the volunteers are going to try to resolve this problem is to have students involve themselves in activities in a group. This way, they will be able to be with their friends, and help the community as well.

The members of Volunteer Services will be able to apply this strategy in the Hunger Clean-up, tentatively planned for the last Saturday in April. In this activity, workstations are set up in the town, and the volunteers spend an afternoon working around the community. The volunteers are sponsored for their work, and the proceeds are usually split between the National Students Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness and another Middlebury organization.

Students will hopefully enter the Hunger Clean-up activities in a team with their friends, which should encourage many more to join in. Schermerhorn summed up the days' events stating "Hunger Clean-up is a wonderful activity which will be a lot of fun. It's been so much fun in the past."

The volunteers also discussed ways to get the faculty involved in their efforts. This has always been the toughest part of any volunteer organization. This attitude was summed up by Lisa Old '96 saying "We'd like to get the faculty involved, but they are more lackluster than the students."

Although Volunteer Services does not have the number of students it would like, they still remain optimistic for the coming semester. With several activities coming up, over the next couple of months, the volunteers remain busy, but hopeful that more people will motivate and sign up. After all, says Schermerhorn, "It is a great organization that does a lot of good in the community."



Tiffany Claflin

Volunteer Services plans upcoming activities for the community in their first meeting of the spring.

Winter Carnival Ball provides desperation and anxiety

By Shamoil Shipchandler

It is out there, I can see it in the distance. It is ominous, like some prehistoric beast, waiting to have its fun with us. Our fate is inevitable; in the meantime we neither sleep nor eat in anticipation. Last year I ran and hid, although this year I've decided to show that I've got at least some shred of manhood left.

I speak of the dreaded Winter Carnival Ball, a creature with which we are all familiar. For those of you who already have a date, skip to the next article for you have vanquished the beast. Step aside while the rest of us count down the days until Saturday night.

The Winter Carnival Ball comes only once a year (Thank God!), making its presence even more potent. Scanning the barren, flat, white and boring snow-covered landscape of Middlebury during February, the Ball appears as the only object of beauty on the horizon.

Do not be deceived my dear friends, for in reality it is nothing but a brutal deception, a symbol of the fact that in a campus of two thousand beautiful, attractive and intelligent men and women, some of us cannot find a date.

In a recently completed survey (of a bunch of my friends and wandering freshmen who actually spared me the time), it was estimated that about 700 people have a significant other on campus. Out of the remaining 1300 odd people left, 300 have a boyfriend/girlfriend at home, who'll probably come up for the weekend. Another 100 have previous commitments (alibis), ranging from swim meets to dental appointments to meetings with their ministers for spiritual comfort. That leaves about 500 guys and 500 women. That also means that since more than half the campus already has a date, every second person you speak to already has a date, making you feel more and more frantic in every passing minute.

The sad part is the event itself isn't that great. Don't get me wrong, we're not talking Karaoke nights at McCullough or anything else on that scale of disasters. Still, if you don't go, you're not really missing much. The only problem is how can you not go? It's not like a regular dance, its got its own name — The Winter Carnival Ball. I mean, everybody is going to be there (this is the part where my personal fears take over and my blood pressure starts rapidly rising.)

Why does it have to be such a big deal? Why does every conversation I have with anyone these days start or end with, "So what about you?" I have to fake stupidity, "Who me? What? Where?"

And then there are the times that I just lose my cool, when "The Question" starts wearing on my sanity. "So I don't have a date yet, so I might end up not going, do you think I can't have fun in my room watching 'Animal House' for the three thousandth time? Huh? You no good, I-already-have-a-date-&!@#$!" (At this point I realize that there is dead silence in Proctor as everybody is looking at me.) I sit down and continue sipping my hot chocolate, trying to pretend that nothing happened, and the fact that my face is now a shade of purple is merely an optical illusion.

Those who share my plight, who walk down the same dusty, lonely road as I do, nod their head in understanding.

They look at each other without saying a word, with a look of supreme compassion on their faces. Five days left. The ink of the First-Years' New Faces Shopping List has started to fall off as every name has been systematically placed into a "No," "Maybe" or "I Just Don't Have the Guts" category.

Most of us will start to break down within the next two to three days as this campus comes to a standstill in anticipation of the ball. Some will show the strength and courage of true men and women, braving the storm. Some of them might even find a date.

Tiffany Claflin

Rejection and sorrow plague the unfortunate in the weeks preceding the Winter Carnival Ball.

The Crampus fights the power

By Brooke Capps

"A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away," a young man was quickly becoming disillusioned with a campus publication due to editorial tyranny and personal victimization. The young man quickly severed all ties with the dark force and the summer before his sophomore year on the moon planet of Middlebury he began plans for a resistance. The young man, commonly known as Jeff Bushell '94, recruited the help of two friends, Matt Goebel '94 and Mike Howson '94.

Together the three drew up a constitution, received funding and set a date for their first meeting, in which they hoped to find others with a similar desire to undermine the dark force and bring laughter to the campus. Instead they found services for Yom Kippur. Weakened but undaunted, they held another meeting and found Sid Williamson '94, who had previously been in orbit in Starr Hall. Thus was the birth of *Wham and Slam*, a publication known to civilians as *The Crampus*.

Their project was to create a satirical newspaper. Their aim was "something like the *Harvard Lampoon*," said Goebel. The gestation period "took a while, which is typical. I didn't help with anything until the end, and that's typical, too," said Williamson. The result was the first issue.

The Middlebury Crampus came out in January of 1992. It was followed closely by a fake course guide, a parody of *Newsweek*, an unofficial college handbook and the *Vanity Farce*.

The reaction of the public was an interesting one; "We got into a lot of hot water for being racially offensive," said Goebel, "but [the students] were taking things out of context, so we got a lot of flak for being insensitive." As a result, the staff of *The Crampus* held an open session in which they offered to answer any questions and/or explain any statements.

"We got a lot of inane comments. One guy just said 'You're not funny.'" said Goebel. "Last thing I heard, that guy had tried to start his own lampoon," Bushell added.

"From the first to the second issue we learned a lot about what was on the edge, what was comedy, and what was hurtful. We took a lot out, but people still read into it." said Howson. "Satire has a biting edge, though, it exposes what people don't want to see," added Williamson.

As a group, the feeling appeared unanimous that the college campus was too uptight, and desperately needed humor, but *The Crampus* staff was repeatedly being restrained by a new nemesis of sorts: political correctness.

In their attempts to make fun of the ridiculous lengths to which PC can go (P+C=Salem witch hunts or McCarthyism. Coincidence?), they were condemned. "I suppose how far we can go is how comfy we are with the people who control us," offered Howson.

"Some people will label it as offensive no matter what. Like Kathy Walsh, who (sniff) is sadly no longer with us. That is off the record of course," said Williamson.

"Hey, there's no malice. We just want to challenge ridiculous people. I think we are less sinful in the Lord's eyes than a lot of things," said Bushell. Goebel commented, "My parents loved it and that's all that really matters to me."

"We gestate and give birth to humor. I face life and death on a daily basis and laugh. My scars run deep." said Williamson.

Once all the pain and bad feelings are wiped away, where does that leave *The Crampus*? "Joe Birbiglia '97 is the future of *The Crampus*," said Bushell of their newest member. As for the future of comedy on the campus, Williamson could only say, "We envision a time in which we will have our own house. A place where funny people can get together and be funny. A place where non-funny people can learn to be funny. A Midd Lampoon House."

Hey, guys, may the farce be with you.

Singers fulfill dreams

(continued from page 9)

Writing their own material has been a new goal this year, creating songs that they hope will posess the same spirit and harmony of the groups they emulate.

Spirit, they explained, is more than having verve in the musical tones, it is something akin to having pure joy for the music itself.

There is a certain connection between Lutton and Thomas while performing, a heightening of the senses which gives their music a fullness of expression.

Pure joy is singing wherever and whenever it strikes them — such as the baggage car of a train on the way back from New Orleans, Louisiana.

They had to belt their songs over the roar of the wheels on the track until the conductor kicked them out, which proved to be an advantageous occurience. In the passenger section they drew a crowd, and one man in the crowd happened to represent the BMI company. He spoke with the singers for two hours, telling them the ins and outs of the music industry. His parting words were encouraging, "I have heard all sorts of groups, and you both definitely have talent and potential." His helpful advice has Lutton and Thomas looking with crossed fingers beyond performances in the Middlebury area toward the larger listening world outside.

This, perhaps, is the essence of the dream: The exciting activities of today becoming concrete professions tomorrow. What started as strumming in the evening between two friends has evolved into a new direction in life. Music has bridged the gap between fantasy and reality. And suddenly, what were pipe dreams are now full and real in their own hands.

In one of Middlebury's loveliest areas, this private residence is set at the foot of the Green Mountains, with spacious lawns and perennial gardens. It invites guests to relax and enjoy the peace and tranquility of its special natural setting.

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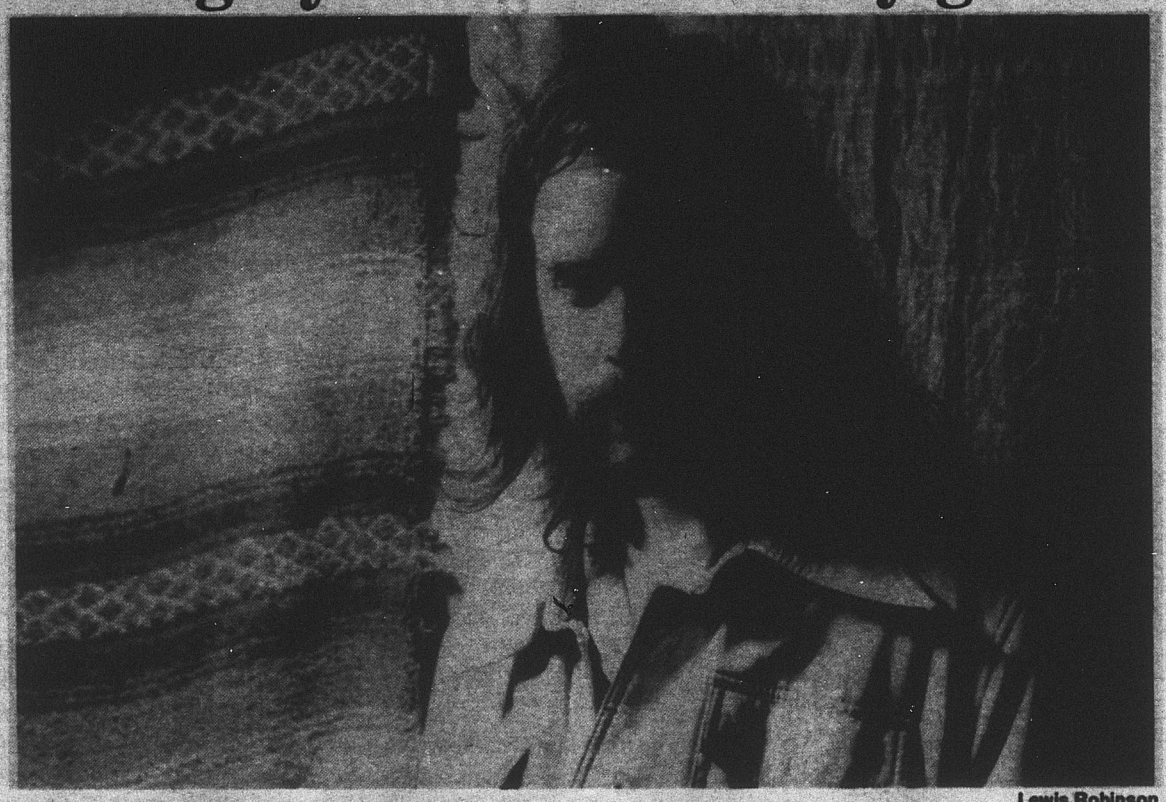
Living by art: Middlebury graduate puts his music first



Lewis Robinson

Trumpet player Bill Heminway has forsaken the world's vanities for the sake of his artistic work.

By Lewis Robinson

The trumpet player for the So-Called Jazz Sextet, Bill Heminway, sits in a rusted metal chair perched atop a worn-out picnic table, surrounded by snow. He looks out from the hill on which he lives in Salisbury.

His compound is simple: a one room structure to sleep in, lit with candles, heated by the cords of wood he cuts. He carries his water up the long trail which winds through the woods from a more traveled road. We sit on top of the picnic table and look out on the Salisbury swamp and the undisturbed wilds; the Green Mountains stand clearly above the valley. The sun shines and melts the snow. Our view is simply overwhelming, but Bill is cautious: "this warm wind can be deceptive."

Heminway makes it clear that living simply in the woods is not original. "There are plenty of people up here in Vermont, strapped, but getting by with their art." He does feel, however, that his lifestyle, while not being creative in itself, has taught him a certain dignity which has become central to his ability to live and create. "Now, I just need to put wood on the fire and play my music."

Since coming to Middlebury in 1987 (for, among other things, a college education), he has played his trumpet in a serious way; serious, he would say, because it involves an aspiration to "create and contribute something unique for society, something which I respect."

With mentors such as Penny Campbell (Dance Department) and Bill Dixon (at Bennington College) helping him to realize the importance of integrating art into living, he is able to see creation in a clearer way, and not only as a means for an end.

Campbell helped him to develop an eye that could "discover patterns and cycles." She taught him artistic tenacity, enabling him to trust himself to pay full attention to personal creation, ignoring the influences of audience.

Dixon's role as a teacher came in a more technical way; he provided Heminway with the tools to relearn the art of trumpet playing, revising his old pressure mouthpiece technique and replacing it with a non-pressure style. This reworking has given him "ten times greater access to personal creation itself, with much more control ... it's like being able to breathe under water."

Bill Heminway is coming out of yet another long Vermont winter of living in a bare-boned way with no pretensions about the severity of his endeavor.

Endurance, he admits, is essential, and "doing" must become that which is revered. There is nothing else.

Nothing, of course, except for remaining skeptical of the warm winds which blow on his hill; it takes a lot to remain faithful to the power of music, and it seems that Heminway is prepared.

Cartoonist subverts conformity

By Brian Perry

Every morning I sit and read the comics. The newspaper is post-CNN old news, unread sports and comics. Twenty five stabs at humor, seven days a week, one day in colo with an extended plot line. Two rows of Beetle Bailey, two Far Sides and a Prince Valiant on Sundays.

Sundays, they cover up the news with bright, colorful comics. They line them up at the store, next to the magazine shelf at the checkout corral, on the most exciting day of the week. Hagar the Horrible, Blondie, and again, like a plague, Beetle Bailey; all displayed proudly like newborns. This is the product of the cartoon artists' toil, left on your doorstep each day, like an orphan. Please take good care of this, it's my baby.

Sometime back in the forties and fifties, when we were fat with the whole war thing, and we were winners, and not humbled, a man, perhaps even a cartoonist, was locked in a cell with a stack of paper one million sheets tall, some black pens, and watercolors of course for the Sunday funnies. Imprisoned in this fashion, they (perhaps the government, perhaps big business) bid him to produce.

You must make one million Beetle Bailey Brand comic strips. He was handed brief but spotty character sketches, and loose plot lines under the headings Army Food, Beetle Laziness, Sarge Brutality, Secretarial Sexism and General Plays Golf. The man, or woman, using these simple tools, sat down to work. In ten years the task was done. One million strips, artfully rendered, subtly humored, to be released at the rate of one per day for the next two-thousand-seven-hundred-and-thirty-nine years. And that's why Beetle Bailey is so boring. And Nancy, and Heathcliff and Garfield. Art should never be forced.

Each day, I read the comics. I look forward to the man-child exploits of Calvin, and sometimes I have to get out the dictionary. The Far Side stands alone as well. Doonesbury, though banished to run underneath the letters-to-the-editors from the locals, is definitely one of the all time greats. Life in Hell, the breeding ground for the Simpsons, does not run in my town but is another personal favorite. There are others as well, but in my opinion the comics page has never been the same since the end of Bloom County.

Whether it is art, social commentary or cheap thrills, for some reason I have always taken the comics page pretty seriously. Real humor in such a constricted medium is hard, but bad humor must be effortless. The Lockhorns, Peanuts and Marmadukes of the world are living examples that somehow stay alive even as they drown daily in their own mediocrity.

So after all the daily indoctrination, humor and critical attacks, I somehow began making a cartoon as well. Oh yes, I thought, I know how to do this right. I have watched the others' mistakes and triumphs for so long, I can step in and build something bigger and better from the sweat and pencil shavings of my predecessors. I studied the cartoons that Berke Breathed made while he attended the University of Texas, in his proto-Bloom County years. I read the comics pages even more carefully, studying the language, style and delivery of their humor, or lack thereof. I sat down, pencil in hand, and I drew. It was November.

I went on to create something that many others, and many times even I myself, can not always understand. I have spent numerous Tuesday nights in the office of *The Campus* trying to explain the inexplicable workings of my own brain. Sometimes, believe it or not, I can't. All the ideas I use appeal to a basic part of me in some way, but I cannot explain exactly where they originate. They occur, and I simply place them on paper. I would summarize by saying that a cartoon is a public airing of my twisted perspective on humanity, as it applies to Middlebury College itself. The sources of material are practically endless.

A cartoon is not funny, in a conventional sense. It highlights a dark side of humanity that we rarely admit to ourselves, at least not here at the college. It's not dark like pure evil, just dark like the recesses of human nature. We all suppress the daily hypocrisies, the unconscious and uncaring abandonment of ideals and travel in the sleepwalk of not being self-aware. This is territory ripe with the irony of a ubiquitous baseball cap, or a greeting repeated to the point of cliché or a self-important administration. After stripping away false exteriors, we find that human beings, and human endeavor, are pretty funny. Even so, we are afraid to look foolish, as though others around were not afraid of the same thing. In my opinion, however, nothing and no one is above being laughed at, especially when it's deserved.

Courtesy Photo

Brian Perry '95 brings out the humor in humanity's darker side.

Artists must face future

By Jen Kuli

Every college student must face his or her future and decide what to do with it. If you find your place in the artistic world, then you should run at it full tilt, no holds barred. Take what is offered to you through education, gaining from it all that you possibly can. If you find obstacles, call upon the power that you possess as a student of this school and break them down. Allow yourself to have the best. This is the path of a successful artist.

Theater is a dangerous institution. In order to be successful in the American theatrical world, you must be prepared to give mind, body and soul to your dream. When an actress or actor is critiqued, it is his or her psyche and personality which is praised or attacked. Training students to be thrust into the harsh world of their chosen art is, therefore, a major responsibility.

In college, where everything is still relatively safe and honest, the professors do their best to instill in their students a sense of security surrounding their craft. The directors of Middlebury's artistic programs are no different in this respect. They have the power of professors, advisors and mentors to make or break the confidence of the artists at this school. That load is an extremely heavy one to lay on the shoulders of any individual.

As in any creative environment, however, there have been murmurs of dissent amongst those who are meant to be reaping the benefits: the students. You hear these kinds of gripes regarding any of the artistic departments on campus. There are tales of snubs by peers, of artistic stifling and of a reluctance to be

(continued on page 14)

Greenwood's Groove

DAN GREENWOOD

Richard Thompson has been a critic's darling forever. Two of his albums recorded with his former wife, Linda Thompson, were ranked by *Rolling Stone* in the top hundred albums ever. He is a guitarist's guitarist who has influenced contemporary artists as diverse as Patty Larkin and Bob Mould, and his songs have been covered by everyone, from former bandmate Sandy Denny to the Pointer Sisters. Yet, for most of the listening public, his name remains unfamiliar.

This could have something to do with the difficulty people have in categorizing Thompson's music. He remains very popular within the folk community for his amazing acoustic live shows, as well as his membership in the legendary band Fairport Convention, whose work in the late sixties and early seventies turned British traditional music into rock as tight as any made before or since. He is an awe- inspiring electric guitarist as well. His style combines finger picking, flat picking, and incredible dexterity for some of the greatest solos ever recorded.

Thompson is regarded as possibly the greatest living British songwriter, as a recent "tribute" album (*The World is a Wonderful Place*, on Green Linnet Records) attests. He has recorded with Mould and Michael Stipe in the Golden Palominos as well as with zydeco greats Beausoleil. He has played concerts as a duo with David Byrne and a mere two years ago he toured with Shawn Colvin as opener and backup singer in his band.

His last album, *Rumour and Sigh*, was a comeback of sorts; it was lauded by critics and picked up by the then-developing field of alternative radio before being nominated for a Grammy as alternative album of the year. With the release of *Mirror Blue* last week Thompson has continued his line of strong albums rooted in tradition while rocking hard and having fun, despite the doom and gloom which seems to be an inherent element of his songwriting.

Mirror Blue is as gloomy as Thompson's writing has ever been. The foreboding music of "For the Sake of Mary" and "I Ride in Your Slipstream" matches the mood of the lyrics, but even the spirited numbers like "Shane and Dixie," about an attempted murder-suicide, can shock those not familiar with his songs. The three acoustic tracks are the true standouts on the album.

Thompson considers many of his ballads to be an extension of traditional British music written about contemporary life. "Taking My Business Elsewhere" and "King of Bohemia" are wonderful songs, but it is on the beautiful "Beeswing" that Thompson truly shines. Only this track approaches the speed and complexity of his best guitar work, and the arrangement of mandolin, flute and pipes provides beautiful, heartfelt fills for this song about lost love.

Mirror Blue may not be the best introduction to Thompson's work. Mitchell Froom's production has toned down his guitar and provided a keyboard gloss over the whole which is not present in Thompson's live performance. The irony of *Mirror Blue* lies in its likelihood of increasing his status as an "alternative" icon, for his sound has not changed significantly over the past twenty years. He has always used the past to remain ahead of his times; it seems that the times may be finally catching up.

The Campus is looking for photo editors. If interested call Alex, x6736 or Tiffany, x7032.

New exhibit unveils Modernism

By David Hamilton

Renowned American sculptor David Smith says that "the characteristics of metal are those of this century: power, structure, destruction and brutality."

From now until May, in the Johnson Gallery in the Arts Center, an installation of sculpture and drawings by one of Smith's big contemporaries, Richard Stankiewicz, is being shown. "Richard Stankiewicz: Sculpture in Steel," a collection of smaller sculptures, follows an outstanding year for the Middlebury College Museum.

Perhaps you have seen Stankiewicz's sculpture in an art history class and, as I did, found it thoroughly without merit. Not to worry. Emmie Donadio has assembled these works with splendid understanding of the artist's aesthetic.

None of these works are particularly famous, but they are consistently more compelling than the works attributed to Stankiewicz in general art history textbooks. It seems that art textbook writers have conspired to minimize Stankiewicz's accomplishments.

Stankiewicz's ambition for his sculpture is very simple. Of primary importance is the elevation of mundane objects to heroic or tragic importance. The current show includes several wonderful examples of this period in Stankiewicz's work.

In "Tribal Diagram" and "Soldier," Stankiewicz uses objects like nails, gears, files, pipes, clamps and gun mechanisms to create anthropomorphic forms. "Tribal Diagram" maps a community and its rise to civilization, with references to space travel. "Soldier" represents a fighting man who looks a little too much like R2D2 blowing his head off, in an uncharacteristically didactic gesture. What the artist called "apparently dead stuff" becomes verse and stanza.

Stankiewicz was one of the progenitors of an infectious trend: found-object sculpture. Many will recognize this "elevation" as a Dada, neo-Dada or Pop phenomenon. But Stankiewicz is no more Pop than Poussin, and no more Dada than every other artist unfortunate enough to have been born after Duchamp.

A more meaningful comparison can be drawn between Stankiewicz and high modernist architecture, looking backward to Russian constructivism. Modernism in architecture is a refined response to the necessities and luxuries of the machine age. Stankiewicz has created simultaneous rebuttals and vociferous seconds to the modernist reaction. He has expanded his vision to incorporate the actual material result of a constructivist planet: rusted steel industrial detritus.

In his untitled works from the early seventies, Stankiewicz takes on the Minimalist rehash of Constructivism. His sculptures from this period strongly resemble Donald Judd sculptures that have been left out in the rain for a few years. His forms are sleek and tight, like the architecture of Le Corbusier and Mies, but the texture of the materials is rusting, flaking off and staining anything that touches it.

Stankiewicz points out the dystopian streak which has been a disturbing byproduct of modernism since the turn of the century. The monumental, seamless curtains which surround modernist architecture or minimalist sculpture in fact conceal a more realistic nature of twisted pipes and noxious fumes. Where Rauschenburg worked "in the gap between art and life," Stankiewicz tears at the gaps between our outwardly seamless monuments of artifice.

While Stankiewicz attacks modernism, we are to understand that he is himself a card-carrying modernist. The forms in his "constructivist" sculptures from the early seventies are not mocking. They are generally faithful to modernist aesthetics, as long as Stankiewicz perceives them to be truthful. Stankiewicz attacks only the deceptive, dangerous part of the modern ethic. This deception is now a career for many people in America. We know it as advertising.

Whether or not you buy or care about art babble pedantry, check out this show. Stankiewicz's work is relevant to your life. He knows all your problems.

He wants to help. Or at least commiserate. Go look at some really hot sculpture while it's within a few hundred yards. You can drink Natural Light anytime.

Tiffany Claflin

"Richard Stankiewicz: Sculpture in Steel" is now being exhibited at the Middlebury Art Museum.

Theater majors face future issues

(continued from page 13)

honest. Where does this come from? Are artists generally so insecure that they can't deal with their own problems in a productive manner?

Some students will not speak out when they feel there is a barrier to their mode of expression for fear of not being respected, or cast, or published.

Many times people refuse to take a certain course of action because it does not correspond to "the way things are done" in an established community. Much of this seems due to significant communication problems.

There are, however, many students who are completely content with the way things are run. This is a good thing. Those in charge are working hard to create artistic programs at Middlebury that welcome new students while taking care of those already within them. They are also attempting to give our college a name in the "real world" when they graduate.

Because an artist puts her or himself on the line with every piece produced, there is a great deal of insecurity involved in projecting oneself into society as an artist. Perhaps this is the cause of the fear that debilitates Middlebury students, stopping them from going to the top when they have a qualm. The truth of the matter is that things will never change if these questions are not addressed. Many times people would rather find things to complain about than put themselves out on a limb and actually enjoy what they do. This is not such a good thing.

Book Review

Mailer exploits metaphors of CIA

By Josh Tyree

Half of the people who read Norman Mailer say that he is the only brilliant and popular American writer going today. The other half claim that Mailer is a has-been, an ideologue and a sexist who should not be taken seriously.

Mailer's public antics over the last forty years have landed him the largest personal reputation of any living American writer. But let's ignore Mailer's persona and focus on his last novel, "Harlot's Ghost." It's out in paperback. It is about the CIA. It's difficult to read.

It's also a big book, weighing in at about 1200 pages. And anyone who reads to the end is in for a nasty shock — it is incomplete. It takes a lot of effort to read a book like this, but "Harlot's Ghost" is a great novel; certainly Mailer's personal masterpiece, possibly the only realistic novel that might outlive these sordid and petty literary times.

Mailer is kind enough to point out that America might feel spiritually empty and listless because we have been fighting an invisible war for the last fifty years. "Harlot's Ghost" is the story of that war.

The novel has a brilliant series of structural inventions. The story is told in first person by Henry Hubbard, a CIA agent who is on a plane traveling to the USSR, but the narrative present takes up no more than fifteen pages of the book. The rest of the story is contained within two manuscripts, both written by Hubbard, that are referred to as Omega and Alpha.

Omega, 100 pages long and incomplete, concerns Hubbard's personal life. Omega recounts Hubbard's affair (and later marriage) to Kittredge, wife of Hugh Montague, or Harlot, an immensely powerful CIA kingpin. Harlot also happens to be Hubbard's godfather and mentor. The Alpha manuscript, which is 1000 pages long and also incomplete, is a personal secret history of the CIA from its inception in the early fifties to the death of John F. Kennedy in 1963. Alpha describes the young Hubbard's daily projects within the galaxy of bureaucracies, organizations and factions that comprise the CIA, from Latin American propaganda campaigns to the Bay of Pigs invasion, and from attempts to assassinate Castro to the CIA's reaction to the murder of JFK.

Hubbard is a writer more than a actual person; he barely exists except as a ghost hovering between his two fabricated pseudo-histories. We are not reading a story, but two unfinished stories within another unfinished story.

"Harlot's Ghost" is an immense game of time. We begin with Mailer's incomplete manuscript. The first few chapters are from the Omega manuscript, but later we find out that the events of Omega are not actually happening — they are merely being read by Hubbard on the plane. Then we begin reading the story of Hubbard on the plane, landing in Moscow, and renting a room: another incomplete manuscript. Then we begin the Alpha manuscript, large portions of which are letters written by Hubbard to Kittredge. More small manuscripts.

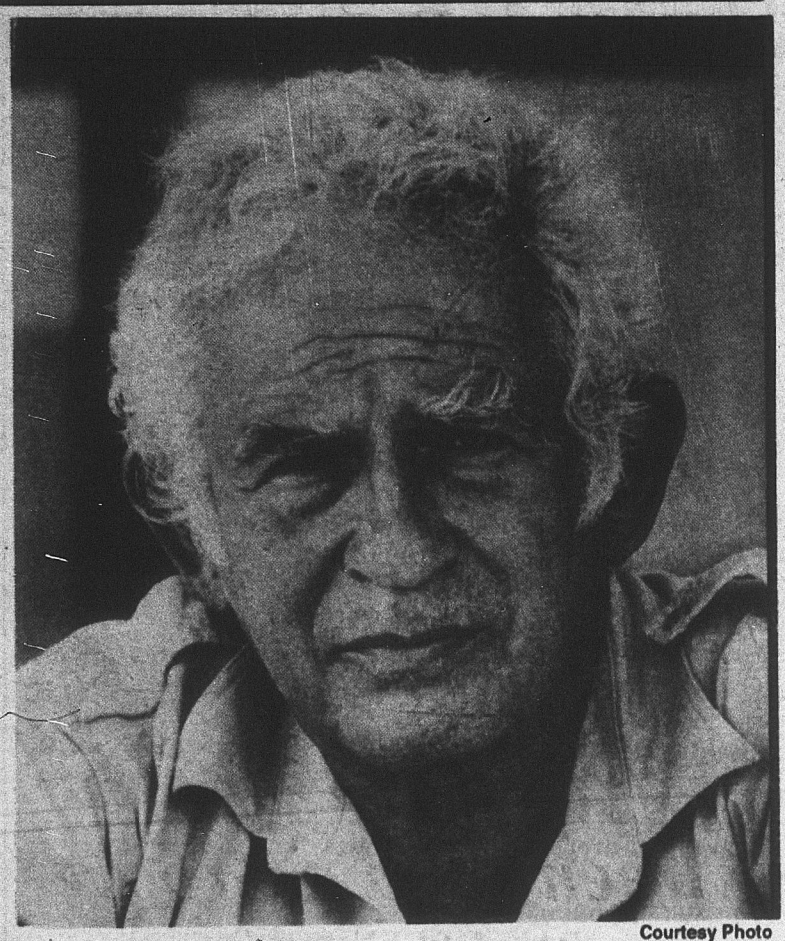
The further we read, the more complex the novel becomes. At any given point in "Harlot's Ghost" we could be reading about up to four or five simultaneously occurring "realities": the meaning of a letter as it relates to the Alpha manuscript, as the events of Alpha relate to the Omega, as both manuscripts relate to Hubbard in Moscow. Borges would either be proud or appalled.

Mailer is offering a fictional version of one of the most invisible branches of our invisible and ghost-like government. But the book can be admired on an infinite number of levels: for its relation to other books (most notably Moby-Dick), for its play between facts and fictions (How much did Mailer make up? How much did Hubbard make up? How much did the CIA make up?), for its games with time, for its politics and for its metaphysical depiction of the CIA. Its form always embodies its themes.

Harlot tells Hubbard that he wants "the CIA to become the mind of America," that is to say, to become the Central Agency of Intelligence, the palace where all information of importance to the nation is sifted, contemplated and decided upon. But what happens when the mind becomes diseased, becomes paranoid, or turns against itself, forming dissociative personalities, taking its own fictions for reality?

The CIA is an organization of authors who fabricate fictional characters, and actors who take on these identities and play them out on the world stage. Mailer makes the point that storytelling is the same thing as lying, and that lying is the same thing as acting, and that living in the CIA is a continual combination of all three. This kind of life takes an immense toll on the mind.

As an agency man, Hubbard is an actor and a liar by trade. His life becomes an endless series of cover stories, prefabricated memories, faked orgasms and false names within false code names. His identities, like his manuscripts, are infinitely subdivisible. No purer condition of true essence exists; Hubbard may have lost his soul. Like Jay Gatsby, he is alone with his self-created artificiality. In trying to reconstruct a stable identity for himself in his manuscripts, he cannot succeed in creating a whole persona from the sum of his fragmented parts, roles, jobs and identities. Trying to make sense of his past becomes like walking the labyrinth of endlessly forking corridors at CIA headquarters, Langely, whose architect could not be told how many people his building would house. Hence Hubbard's problems with completing manuscripts. Hubbard's mind within the CIA, and the CIA as the mind of America, creates extended metonymy whose various relationships approach infinity. The activity of lunatics, actors, writers and spies is related. All claim to have a deeper purpose than the rest of the world, some final truth which justifies their double and triple lives.



Courtesy Photo

Mailer's latest novel takes an unflinching look at the CIA.

For the CIA, this deeper purpose was a spiritual war against the spread of communism. The idea that their actions might make the world more free made any atrocity acceptable. The consequences of this pact are perhaps incalculable. Yet Mailer suggests that what happened inside the CIA during the last fifty years provides a clue to what happened to the American mind during the invisible and ghost-like Cold War, a spiritual war more than a physical one, but nevertheless a real war, fought mostly in the mind, in secret, by a handful of people who will never be known. Their secret history could be our own.

Hubbard's incomplete identity exists as an apparition of the psychic violence of the age. But Mailer is not interested in pinning our problems on the tail of the CIA donkey. It is the war itself, and the tactics of the war, that has wounded us so deeply.

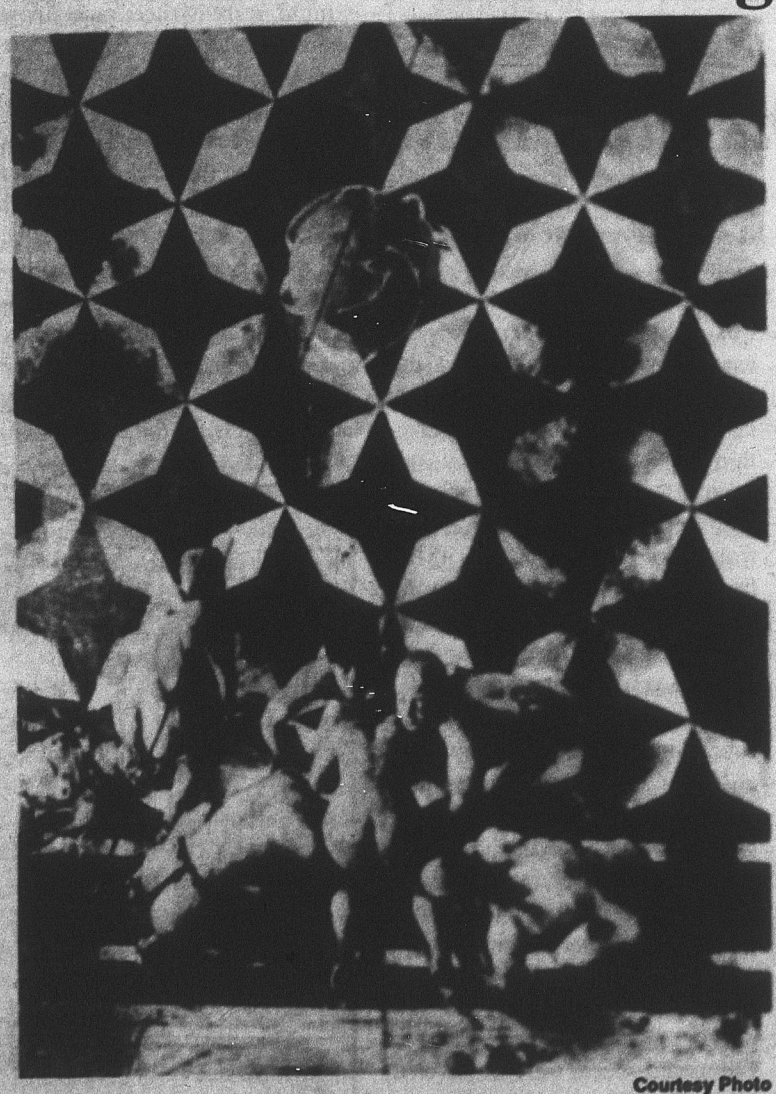
Young painter Lukacs avoids art gimmickry

By Tilke Elkins

We have had our fill of modern art. The blank canvas, the blue canvas. The installation: Six billion tons of bedrock from momentous geographic locations spread earnestly across reams of hardwood gallery floor. The ready-made: yesterday's toilet. The concept, the gimmick: An all-inclusive collection of a year's worth of body fluids, neatly labeled and arranged under halogen. Or just plain art, man: Lines, shapes, colors and an accompanying explanatory pamphlet that takes longer to read than it takes to view the paintings themselves. Art that goes nowhere until it is laboriously sifted through the gray matter.

What happened to instant impact? What happened to being blown away at first sight of the canvas, struck dumb, captivated, inspired, without the aid of any explanation at all? In short, is the art of painting in and of itself truly reaching the end of its possibilities? Has photography wiped out representational art?

Attila Matthew Lukacs does not think so. He swore he would get recognition in the art world before he turned thirty, without conforming to the conventions of trends. He had been fascinated by art since he was a child, and his teachers at the Emily Carr School of Art in Vancouver thought he was one of the most talented young painters they had seen.



Courtesy Photo

Attila Matthew Lukacs makes no compromises with the viewer.

In 1986, Calgary-born Lukacs, then 24, traveled to Berlin, where he found a subject matter as exciting as his talent: skinheads. Using a high classical style and canvases the size of an entire gallery wall, Lukacs arranged the neo-Nazis and the Redskins (the two main skinhead factions in Germany) in poses which echoed those used by well-known painters like David and Degas. He also sought inspiration from advertising pamphlets for X-rated videos. The effect is confrontational and disturbing. Lukacs' masterful technique and choice of style elevate the tough, hyper-masculine bodies to the status of demi-gods, bathed in dramatic, fiery lighting and surrounded by dark, rich color.

At the same time, they are placed in their own habitat (ambiguous factories and aimless construction sites) and their obscene tattoos can be read down to the last detail. In some of his works, he favors a surrealist slant. In one painting, called "Wild Kingdom," burly men dressed in military garb with donkey heads and enormous exposed phalluses advance toward a semi-bound female figure resembling Justice. In another, an electric-blue figure squats in a gutter and administers heroine into a blue arm. The fascinating element in his works is that while the subject matter is often horrifying, the beauty of the painting draws the viewer in irresistibly.

As I crouched beneath the towering "Glamour Crew," completed in 1993 and on show now at the

(continued on page 16)

Arts Roundup

Thursday, Feb. 24, 1994

8:00 p.m. Hepburn Zoo.
"The Fever" by Wallace Shawn. A one-person show in which the central character confronts the limits of the liberal conscience in a Third World nightmare. The independent work of Lelia Arnheim '95, directed by Christina Jaeger '94.

9:00 p.m. Mead Chapel
In the wake of the release of his new album of folk-tinged accoustic guitar, singer/songwriter David Wilcox returns to Middlebury for his only college appearence on the album-boosting tour. Die-hard fans will tell you his live show is not to be missed.

10:00 p.m. Pearsons Lounge
Winter Carnival First Night Party. "Carnival Calypso" features student band Horatio. $3 admission.

Friday, Feb. 25, 1994

8:00 p.m. Hepburn Zoo
"The Fever" one person show will be performed.

Saturday, Feb. 26, 1994

8:00 p.m. Hepburn Zoo
"The Fever" one person show will be performed.

9:00 p.m. The Pyralisk in Montpelier
The Fiflu Kidane and the New Nile Orchestra will be playing their infectious brand of East African Dance Music. Tickets are $6.

Sunday, Feb. 27, 1994

3:00 p.m. The Arts Center Concert Hall
The Borromeo String Quartet will be playing selections by Beethoven, Shostakovich and Schubert's "Death of a Maiden." Student tickets are $3.

Wednesday, March 2, 1994

4:00 p.m. The Woodstove Lounge in Proctor Hall
Printmaker Sabra Field '57 will be the guest of honor at a celebration of her recent book, "Sabra Field: The Art of Place."

Lukacs shuns gimmicks

(continued from page 15)

Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art along with five other Lukacs works, a man in a dark gray suit approached me. "He likes to get in a lot of allusions, doesn't he?" he questioned rhetorically. "There you can see Salomé and the head of John the Baptist."

He pointed to a severed head speared on a metal rod which hovered above the "crew," a group of men and women dressed in leather and arranged in suggestive poses. "Salomé," a woman with dark hair, looked like someone you might meet on the street in downtown Middlebury, but her face was contorted in unexplained fear.

"The beef carcass is from the Rembrandt still-life, of course," he confided. Actually, the bloody slab which hung over a kind of forge near the figures was in my mind more reminiscent of Francis Bacon. The painting as a whole had the same mixture of arcane violence, tension, and beauty characteristic of the modern master.

Lukacs' public explanations for his art also seem to be influenced by Bacon. Like Bacon, Lukacs claims that the scenes he paints, which seem to writhe with significance, mean whatever the viewer wants them to. Mystery is more enticing than facts.

Although he is not one himself, Lukacs likes to paint skinheads because they are, he explains, "on the border between action and inertness. They're not really doing anything," he says. "They are my 20th century warriors." Despite their virtual inertness, their piercing, confrontational stares coupled with the brash homoeroticism of their forms threaten the viewer. As one male critic observed, "they make you feel like you've been raped."

Whatever your reaction to the subject matter, Lukacs is worth investigating as a young representational artist who can both impress and shock his audience. His only drawback seems to be an occasional lapse into goofy details, like a exaggerated needle in a junkie's arm or cartoon-like lettering on the side of a building.

The works for his show in Montreal, which were completed over a five-year period, will be on display until April 28. Works include "Everybody Wants The Same Thing," "Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow" and "In My Father's House."

Screenwriting norms explored

By Gene Swift

The word "formulaic" is often tossed around by critical moviegoers who feel cheated by a predictable script. What most of these people do not realize, however, is that all movies, predictable or not, are formulaic in one way or another.

The first element which governs the art of the screenplay is time. A film over two hours (120 minutes) in length translates into fewer showings at theaters nationwide, reducing the potential for profit. This brings into play the second restricting element in writing a screenplay: money. Thinking visually as a screenwriter is fundamental, but without the financial backing of a Steven Spielberg production, a screenwriter's imagination is limited by what is financially feasible. This is one reason why the films of independent filmmakers often involve small casts, easily accessible settings and well edited stock-footage to support the story.

However, the most formulaic element of screenwriting has its origins in the writings of academicians like Aristotle: the infamous arc of dramatic tension's rise, climax and resolution. Human beings like this structure; one can easily imagine the boos and hisses of primitive cave-dwellers listening to a poor "writer's" incomplete tale of the hunt without the kill. We like to see lovers embrace, the heroes ride off into the sunset and the Death Star explode, followed quickly by the throne room scene's triumphant fanfares and Chewbacca's roar of celebration. Keeping these things in mind, screenwriters must know where their stories are going before they actually get there. With the general guideline of one page of a screenplay equaling one minute of life on-screen, the good screenwriter will know ahead of time where her or his work will be (or at least be able to make a decent approximation) on any given page. The landmark points which match up neatly to Aristotle and his arc divide the standard, "formulaic" screenplay into three acts. At the end of each, according to cinematic scholar Syd Field and his followers, are "plot-points" which send the protagonist along a new path for that act.

According to Field, the first ten minutes is the most important for any movie, for it is in these first ten minutes that a screenwriter must introduce the central characters and theme of the film. Field would argue that audiences have a natural aesthetic which turns them away from films which fail to do this successfully. After the first ten minutes, he argues, one knows whether a film is good or bad.

Take, for example, William Goldman's "The Princess Bride." After about the first ten minutes of the movie, we know Westley loves Buttercup and the feeling is mutual; we've been handed the "as you wish" concept rather neatly. Westley is killed by the Dread Pirate Roberts and Buttercup says, "I will never love again."

At this point, we know as well as Fred Savage's character that Westley can't just be dead, and we've been hooked by a good screenplay. Westley's supposed "death" and subsequent resurrection later in the movie serves as the landmark for end of act two and the beginning of the last third of the film, because it is from this point on that the film focuses on the rescue of Buttercup from the clutches of the evil Prince Humperdink. Again, William Goldman is close to Field's predictions; Westley "dies" about two-thirds of the way into the film.

What, then, signifies the end of act one: The kidnap of the princess, or the revelation that the Dread Pirate Roberts is actually our hero, Westley? Field would probably argue for the latter, since our point-of-view protagonist is Westley through most of the film, and it is the Princess's kidnapping which sparks the three confrontations with Inigo, Fezzik and the Sicilian, Vinzini — the bulk of the movie's "middle."

Good films which work against the traditional structure with dual protagonists, two-act films or unresolved arcs can also be labeled "formulaic" simply because they are using the formula as a norm to work against. The old adage "you need to know the rules in order to break them" applies to successful films such as "Reservoir Dogs" and "Raising Arizona," which are anything but predictable. The next time you watch a movie which doesn't seem "formulaic" (stay away from John Hughes or most action flicks), pay close attention to your watch, keep track of the minutes of the 120 page script, and chances are you will see a formula at work.

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Damaging stereotypes present in Middlebury community

Face it, we've all done it at one time or another. No matter how liberal or open-minded we consider ourselves, we've identified someone not as a person, but as a member of a certain group. That big guy who stepped on your toe at the social house last weekend was nothing but a dumb football player. That thin woman with horn rims who helped you out at Voter when the computer ate your thesis disk was but a computer nerd. Even by referring to your best friend as a typical Patagonia-wearing, Mad River Glen-skiing, Ford Explorer-driving Midd kid, you're stereotyping someone, perhaps unfairly.

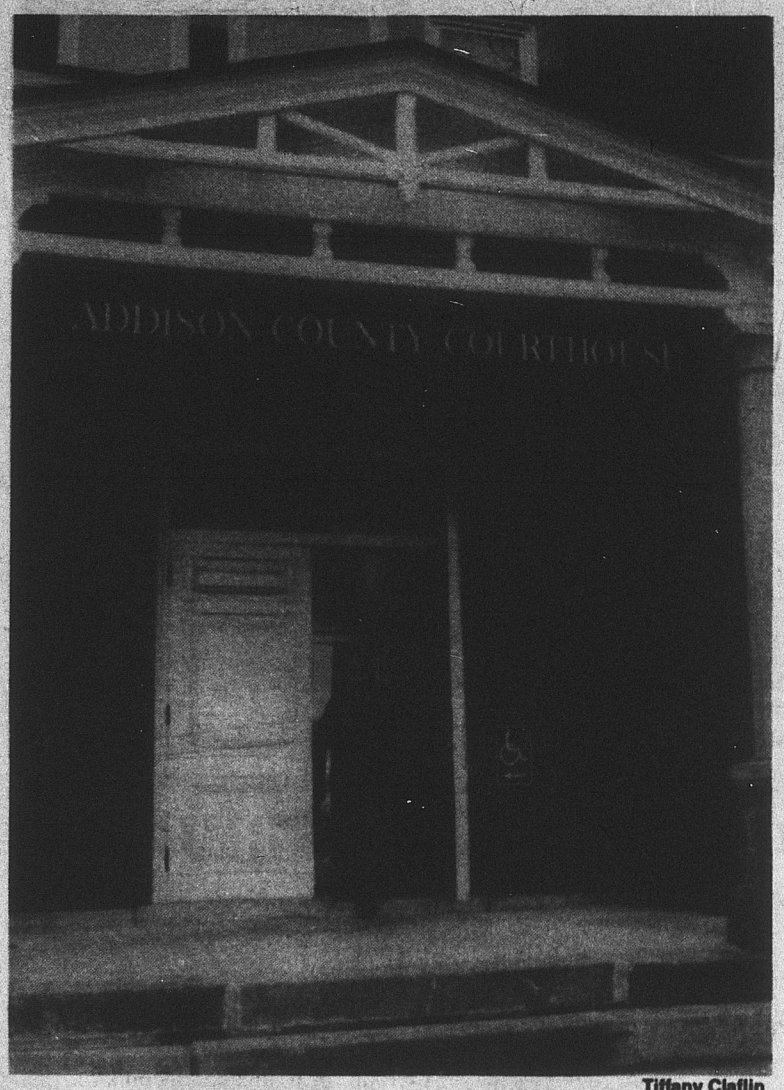
It's easy to get a label at a school like Middlebury, where most people seem to look and act alike. Anyone who behaves a certain way, dresses a certain way, is immediately judged by what can be seen on the outside, rather than what really on the inside. Some labels can be funny, some labels can be cute, and sometimes we even enjoy them. A label can be a sign of belonging to a group — for example, being a KDR member — or it can describe who your friends are: "Yeah, he lives in Weybridge."

Stereotypes exist as generalizations based on some experience or knowledge. Whether formed as a result of a personal encounter or from pure hearsay, they are only summations at a superficial level. Stereotypes provide face-value judgments that can be a helpful way of mentally assimilating a hectic world.

The problem with stereotypes, however, comes when the stereotypes become cruel. People who are stereotyped are often assumed to be something they really aren't. All lacrosse players are meatheads. All women's studies majors are lesbians. In how many cases are these things really true?

In extreme cases, negative stereotyping can threaten both mental and physical well-being. Relations between the town and the college, for example, have suffered due to certain suppositions each group makes about the other, based on what is visible at first glance. Likewise, many feminists and homosexuals on campus feel that they are unfairly assumed to behave in certain ways and to want certain things that really aren't in keeping with their own beliefs.

This week, find out in depth about some of the more damaging stereotypes that exist at Middlebury College.



Tiffany Claflin

The courthouse steps are a gathering place for kids in town.

Biases hurt town and college's relations

By Janice Cooke

Have you ever walked through town, looked at a local resident and thought of him or her as a "townie"? Or even worse, have you ever been taunted by a group of kids from town with sneering stares and called such names as "rich snob, college kid?"

Much of the name calling, and even some of the animosity lurking between the townspeople and the campus community may be explained as a result of stereotypical images held by both groups.

The socio-economic differences between the two communities serve as one basis for the existing stereotypes. First-year student John Patrick Simms '97, who resides in the town of Middlebury, feels that "the college kids think that the local high school kids are 'country bumpkins,' and the town kids perceive the college kids to be snotty rich kids."

Though these may be the overriding perceptions of the college and town communities, they are not the only ones in existence.

"When I was a student at Middlebury Union High School I had contact with the campus community through a tutorial program," says Michael Atlantis '97, "I thought the students at the college to be very bright and talented students, who posed no threat to the local community at all."

Despite his positive perception of the college students he knew personally, Atlantis still felt awkward around college kids he met in the town.

"It was a totally different experience for me. When we would pass the college kids, the college girls especially, would give us long, snotty stares. My [high school] friends tend to think I'm rich because I go here. Some won't even speak to me anymore."

For the locals, who take great pride in their hometown, the college students are sometimes looked upon as invaders and outsiders. This perception undoubtedly leads to the forming of yet another stereotype.

"High school students think that the college kids are taking over the town when they drive through in their fancy Saabs and Jeeps, which makes the townspeople feel intimidated," said Atlantis. "It's really about 'the look' which frightens the local kids."

Some Middlebury College students have been the victims of taunts and harassment by local youths. Natasha Causton '96 says that she vividly recalls their jeers and insults during one visit to town.

"A group of guys were looking

(continued on page 18)

First-years discuss department stereotypes

By Cindy Sada

The simple question, "What's your major?" may seem unassuming and casual, but the brief response it elicits can bring forth a host of stereotypical ideas. Most people can rapidly spout off adjectives and phrases cued by the mere mention of major departments. Though often done in jest, just how harmless or harmful can it be?

Let's play a demonstration round. The rule is to speak the first words that come to mind, whether or not you personally believe them.

1. Computer Science: "Creative and aggressive," declared John Mejia '97. "Oh yeah, and I know of no Computer Science major who doesn't like Star Trek..."

2. Economics: "Conservative," said Abbie Wilson '97, "and they like money." "Capitalist swine," Mejia added.

3. Art: "They dress in dark clothes, smoke and say 'damn' a lot. The same can be said about theater majors to a greater extent," said Mejia.

4. Religion: "Pensive. They talk as if they're giving sermons," said Wilson.

5. Biology: "They all seem to think that their work is so much harder than everyone else's," said Brent McKay '97.

6. Psychology: "Why waste time thinking about other people's lives and problems instead of your own?" said Ken Loiselle '97.

Performing arts majors seem to receive the worst rap. This may or may not be due to the reputation of some departments for being notorious grade inflaters. Stereotyping departments by their average GPA, while seemingly logical, can be misleading. McKay, recounts one class that "was incredibly hard, but a lot of people got A's because they worked their butts off." Still, McKay admitted that he does fall prey to judging the rigor of certain academic programs based on the participants' grades.

The newer, less traditional majors must struggle against opinions that they are useless or easy to pass. "Most stereotypes are so mild that I don't think they're harmful, but stereotypes of women's studies [that most majors are lesbians and radical feminists], the performing arts, environmental studies and other newer majors are the most blatant because they are looked down upon," said McKay.

Loiselle feels that although stereotypes of majors [or of anything for that matter] have the potential to be harmful, they are partly based in reality. He says, "I think the majority of math majors spend so much time doing higher math that they lose their basic math skills."

Dave McDermott '97, Loiselle's roommate, takes no offense to stereotypes of his major. "I couldn't care less," he stated. "I know I'm not like that. A stereotype is not going to stop me from majoring in math."

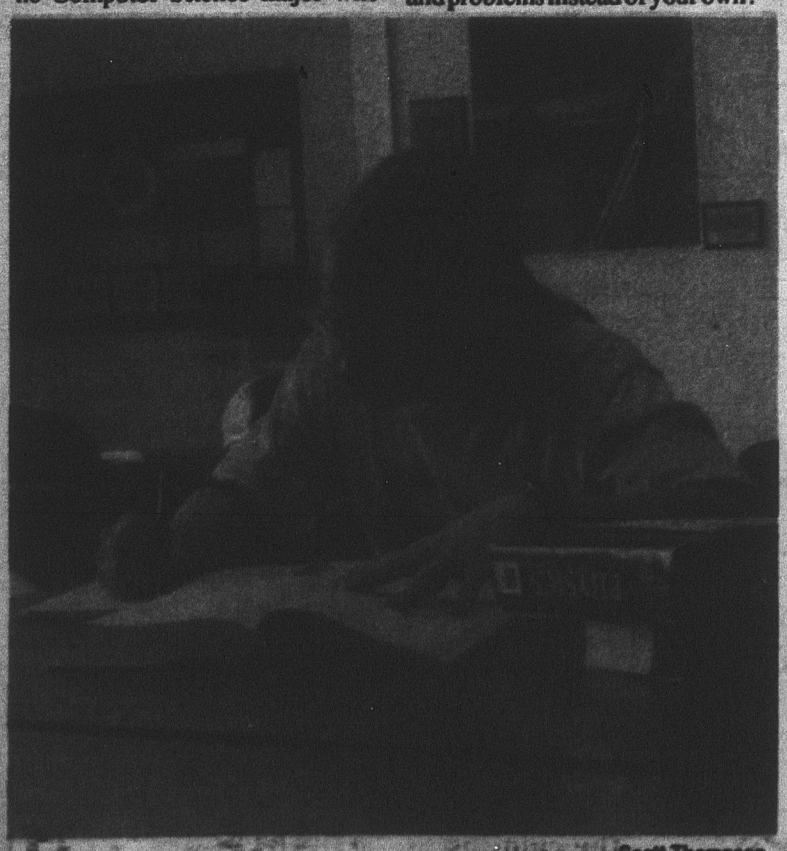
The popular images of departments are also attributed to the faculty who belong to them. Professors, because they their departments, are easy victims of labeling. Classics professors are "animated, flighty and eccentric," according to Wilson. She also feels that psychology professors are "intense and probing ... I always think they are analyzing what I say and drawing conclusions about me." Wilson describes English professors as "personable and fun." McDermott says math professors tell terrible jokes.

It is important to note that our game might not succeed with upperclassmen. They have had more exposure to majors and courses and their views can be based on experience. The first-year students were usually prejudicial, due to their lack of knowledge.

Chemistry chair Robert Gleason feels that stereotypes of "the scientist as a nerd" and of the natural sciences as difficult subjects are harmful because they are born from ignorance. "I think anyone can be a nerd. Besides, I think it's good that we have nerds. [They] do good things."

"The general idea is that science is a more difficult subject than a humanity," continues Gleason. "I don't think this is true. People think that things they don't know about or have no facility for are more difficult. People think you have to be something special to do science, but the fact is that you are special because you excel and you can excel at anything. I am always in awe of people who excel at playing musical instruments."

"I don't think stereotypes of professors or majors will deter people from taking the subjects they want," said Zach Stillerman '97, regarding students. Concerning the faculty, he adds, "We want the best possible professors. It doesn't matter whether or not they fit the stereotype."



Scott Thompson

A physics major sweats over his work in the Science Center.

Yoko Nakao

Many who call themselves feminists face the stereotype of the "pushy" women making men cower.

Gays, lesbians resent caricatures

By Jen Varney

Stereotypes are something to rely on. They help identify the world, especially in relation to ourselves.

However, this practice can quickly become dangerous. When stereotypes cease to be just a preliminary way of viewing a group of people and become what we actually believe to be true, when they become derogatory or slanderous, then stereotypes become harmful.

Gay men, lesbians and bisexuals on campus are the subjects of many derogatory stereotypes. Talking to gay, lesbian, and bisexuals at the college gives one an idea of the kind of the things they face everyday.

Even heterosexual allies of gay and lesbian students fall victim to stereotypes which show a "guilty by association" mentality on campus.

Jeremy Patlen '96 acknowledges that stereotypes exist for every group, and not all of them are bad or wrong. "If they weren't true to some extent, they wouldn't be there in the first place," he says.

Dania Palanker '96 agrees. "All stereotypes come from a truth to a certain degree," she says. "But," she stresses, "not everybody fits those truths."

The most common stereotypes the homosexual community finds itself confronted with are those images of the "queen" or the "butch." A "queen" is generally considered to be a gay man who is effeminate and dresses in drag, and a "butch" is a term often applied to a lesbian with very short hair who seemingly hates men yet wants to be one. There might not be any individual on campus that completely fits these stereotypes, but they exist nonetheless.

Jason Lord '95 says that these stereotypes, like most, are based on ignorance. "People see really bizarre [portrayals of] homosexuality in the movies or wherever, and then just don't take the time to see any other side of it."

Henning Hegland '97 agrees. "One thing that is irritating is that if you come to campus as an 'out' person, then they [members of the college community] immediately place the stereotypes on you without getting to know you as a person."

People deal with stereotypes in different ways. Patlen feels that sometimes it's easiest just to laugh at them, since "I fit them in some sense," he says. Lord says "I don't feel that I'm more feminine than I should be; I don't walk around with a lisp and snapping my fingers all the time, but if I did, that'd be fine."

The stereotypes don't stop with homosexuals. Andrea Lathrop '95 says that, because she is close friends with many members of the Middlebury Gay Lesbian Bisexual Alliance (MGLBA) and because she attends most of the group's meetings, there was a rumor circulating in her dorm and among her friends that she was a closet lesbian.

She said it was "hilarious," but "it's silly that people can't belong to MGLBA without others automatically assuming something about them. I think it frightens away people who could potentially be really strong support, but who aren't willing to be labeled."

Hegland also expressed concern about the way that MGLBA is viewed by students on campus. He says that the group should be viewed as a support group and a political group, but that instead people tend to view it as a gossip place where the members just talk about other students that aren't there.

"That hurts," said Hegland, "because there may be someone out there who needs people to talk to, but then they don't dare come."

Of course, stereotypes also exist between gays and lesbians. Gay men sometimes think that lesbians have a chip on their shoulder or that they are man-haters. Lesbians often see gay men as women "wannabes" who pay too much attention to sex. But, says Patlen, "these aren't necessarily exclusive to the individual groups; I think everybody has these stereotypes."

Bisexuals seem to get the worst from both sides. According to Palanker, some people view bisexuality as "a fear to commit to one sex," rather than as a serious lifestyle.

Patlen feels that bisexuals are seen as "unwilling to take that last step and say 'I'm gay.'" The homosexual community does not really accept them as part of the gay movement, hence there is very little support for bisexuals.

Probably the most harmful effect of stereotypes is when they touch on deeper issues.

"I can handle being called effeminate," said Patlen, "but it gets offensive when it's serious."

Some of the more slanderous stereotypes suggest that homosexuals and especially bisexuals are sexually promiscuous, or that all gay men are child molesters.

These stereotypes cross the border from mean-spirited to very dangerous.

Feminist label carries negative connotations

By Becki Plona

You know who she is. She's the woman who sits next to you in economics class, always asking the professor why women aren't paid as much as men. Or she's the one you see in Proctor sitting and laughing with a whole bunch of female friends, not a man in sight. She might be the one who uses words like "equality" and "empowerment" when talking to large groups of people, the one who takes courses with names like "Sociology of Women," the one who has close-cropped hair and a backwards baseball cap. She is what is commonly known as a feminist.

Many believe that it's hard to call yourself a feminist at Middlebury. On a campus where conformity is so tempting and so easy to achieve, women who call themselves feminists are seen as bucking the system. They strive for self-fulfillment in ways that aren't always acceptable in what is basically a conservative social structure. As a result, they are often labeled, and the labels aren't always flattering.

"I do think there's a stereotype of feminists at Middlebury," said Maya Van Putten '95, "and I think the stereotype is negative. I think people associate Middlebury feminists with hating men, and that's too bad. There's a lot more to feminism than just man-bashing."

But unfortunately, man-bashing is exactly what many people see as the primary goal of feminists on campus. This sentiment is echoed throughout many areas of campus life, both publicly and privately. Last spring, for example, *The Crampus* 's "Unofficial Guide to Middlebury" identified *Artemis Magazine* as "a wymmins magyzyne where female issues are addressed and bad poetry about inadequate ex-boyfriends is written."

Liz Bales '94 sees this kind of humor as a prime example of the derogatory labeling of feminists at Middlebury, and feels it comes from an atmosphere of anger and ignorance. "It's easy and safe to joke in a negative manner about something you don't understand," she said. "[Feminism] is all about the ownership of self, and when you take away someone else's possession it makes them angry."

Some Middlebury students tend to associate the word "feminist" with the classic "feminazi" image popularized by arch-conservative talk show host Rush Limbaugh.

Matt Hazen '96 tried to explain what he saw as the common perception of the women's movement by students at Middlebury. "A lot of people are scared of the feminist movement because of a few radical feminists we all hear about who make it sound like you [should] be totally against men and masculinity in all respects."

With this in mind, many women are reluctant to classify themselves as feminists for fear of the image surrounding the word. "I personally wouldn't really want to be termed a feminist the way that everybody at Middlebury thinks of one," said Johanna Chapin '94.

Yoko Nakao '95 agreed. "I'm not a feminist...well, I mean, I don't hate men or anything." To Bales, feminism is not about the hatred of men. "Feminism is about women asserting their power in whatever manner they choose to do so...there is no universal feminist."

Van Putten agreed, and found the common perception of feminism at Middlebury to be very damaging, "Feminism has to do with creating a better world for everyone, not just for women." She echoed the sentiments of many in saying, "I wish people would just put aside the stereotypes and open their minds."

College-town biases strain relations

(continued from page 17)

at me and throwing those paper caps at me for no reason. I really didn't think much about it, I just kept walking."

Regardless of their experience. many of the students have a biased view of the townspeople. Melissa Stowe '95, who is also a town resident, believes that most of these negative perceptions are formed and will continue to form due to the great separation between the two communities. "Before I attended the college, [my peers and I] thought of the school as a separate place, as the 'college on the hill', and 'kids on the hill' only here for educational purposes. It was separate then and even today things are separate. I'm a 'townie' and a student, which means I fit in on both sides of the fence." Stowe adds, "My perception has changed since I've been here and met actual students."

Existing stereotypes may be reinforced by past robberies, attacks and vandalism on campus, which have been linked to youths from Middlebury. The locals were primary suspects even before investigations by campus security and the town police confirmed their links to the crimes.

According to articles in *The Middlebury Campus*, officials investigating the graffiti incident this winter suspected that residents from town were responsible. Last spring, two local juvenile suspects were apprehended after four college students were assaulted while walking on campus. Ching-I Liao '96, a victim of robbery, has reason to believe that the crime was committed by local kids. "I was told by an eyewitness that local kids might have been responsible for stealing from my room." Since then, her feelings towards the townspeople have soured.

Fortunately, there are residents of both communities who enjoy the company and support of one another. Ronnie Sunderland, manager of Rosie's restaurant, said that they welcome the patronage received from college students. "We get most of our business from the college kids, especially on Wednesday, 'spaghetti night' and for breakfast on Sunday mornings."

Many in the college and town wish for change. But Stowe adds, "I don't think much can be done to bridge the gaps because the college seems to want separation from the town with its policies." However, Jennifer Manseau '96 believes that more interaction between the campus and the townspeople would perhaps lessen the existence of stereotypes. "When people stereotype it's done without knowledge," she explains. "Once we begin to look at people as individuals and not as part of a group, stereotypes will inevitably fade away."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please return any dishware belonging to dining services! Dishware has been disappearing at an alarming rate this academic year. Please use C.U.P.P.S. mugs instead of the ceramic ones. Thanks for your help.

Food, eating and body image concerns: confidential support group for students. Thursdays, starting Feb. 24 and March 3, 4:15, Mitchell Green Lounge. Led by Nancy Blejwas. For more information or to express interest, call 388-6751. Sponsored by the Center for Counseling and Human Relations.

On Tuesday, March 1st, the Middlebury Gay Lesbian Bisexual Alliance will sponsor a discussion from 8-10 p.m. in the Grand Salon of the Chateau. Carlos Brown '94, Henning Hegland '97, Jason Lord '95, Dania Palanker '96, Jeremy Patlen '96, Margaret Wright '94 and possible others will speak about their experiences at Middlebury as a gay man, lesbian or bisexual. A question and answer fromat will follow. Refreshments will be served and everyone is invited to attend.

SHO-MIDD, the student hosting organization of Middlebury College is looking for people to host prospectives overnight. If you have room on your floor and can spend a dinner talking with a high school student, call SHO-MIDD's voice mail box at ext. 1515, leaving your name and extension.

Submissions are due March 7 for the EQ mug design competition. Send your camera-ready artwork to Holly Cookis, c/o the Service Building.

Michelle Lee and Jean Anderson won the Environmental Council t-shirts at the Recycling Fair on Feb. 15. Kennan Radebaugh won the Tin Can Papermaking Kit.

PERSONALS

Dear Readers: My name is David Bennett, I'm a fifth grade student at Clayton Elementary School in Englewood, Colorado. Our class is studying the geography and history of the U.S. We would appreciate it if you would send us any postcards or information from your state so we may learn more about our country. Thank you for your help. Sincerely yours, David Bennett, Clayton Elementary School, 4600 S. Fox Street, Englewood, CO, 80110.

OVERHEARDS

"If you can't beat someone else, beat yourself." — Pearsons 4th floor

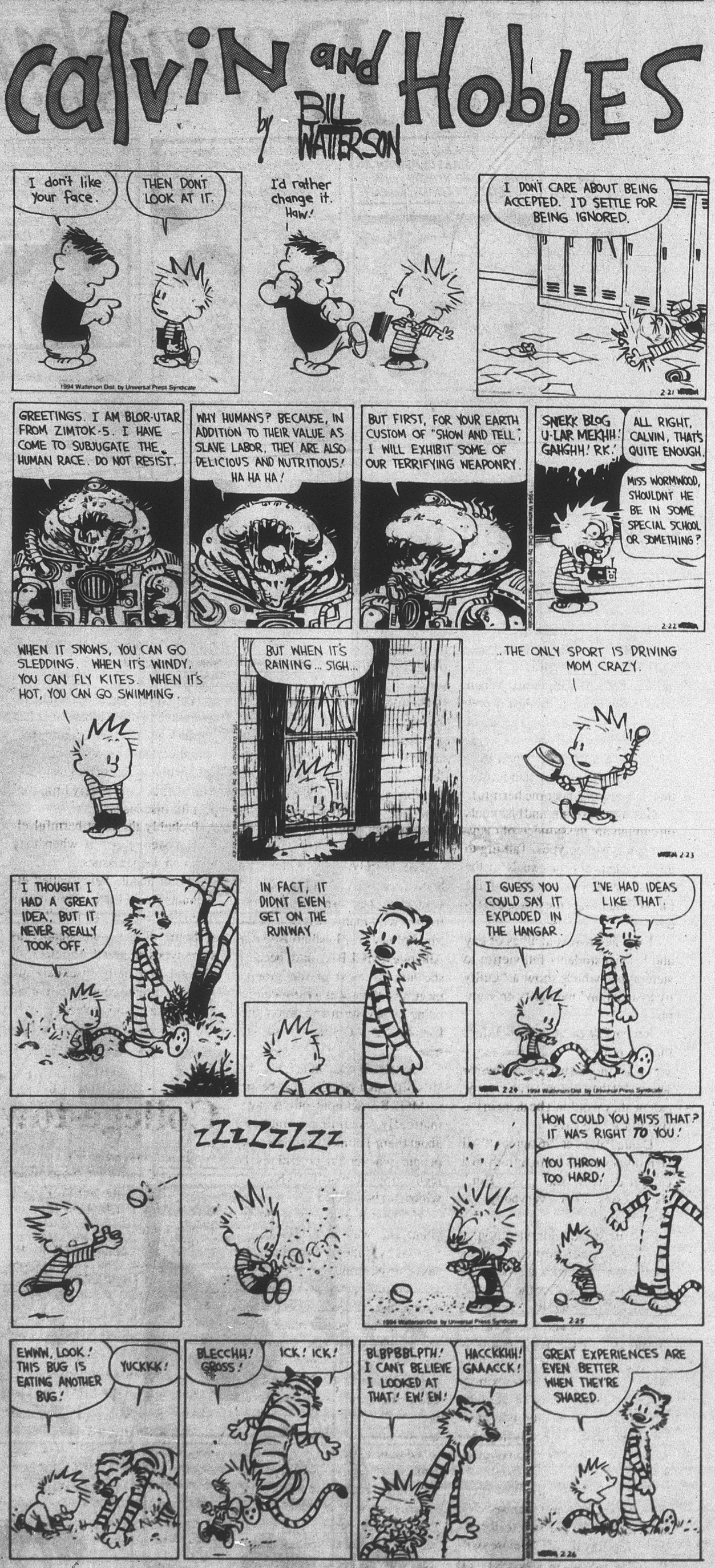
"Okay, okay. We'll all drop trou in the elevator." — Hepburn residents preparing for a jog

"You can't resort to drugs to drown your sorrows." "Watch me." —?

"Oh no. I'm wearing the same outfit as Chris Carter." — woman at the Voter #2 Party

"You realize that most of the people you talk to tonight will not be wearing underwear." —at the #2 Party

"Sometimes when I listen to myself talk I think of that song, 'Welcome to my Fog.'" —RHA in Stewart


Calvin and Hobbes
by Bill Watterson
I don't like your face.
THEN DON'T LOOK AT IT.
1994 Watterson Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
I'd rather change it. Haw!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT BEING ACCEPTED. I'D SETTLE FOR BEING IGNORED.
2-21
GREETINGS. I AM BLOR-UTAR FROM ZIMTOK-5. I HAVE COME TO SUBJUGATE THE HUMAN RACE. DO NOT RESIST.
WHY HUMANS? BECAUSE, IN ADDITION TO THEIR VALUE AS SLAVE LABOR, THEY ARE ALSO DELICIOUS AND NUTRITIOUS! HA HA HA!
BUT FIRST, FOR YOUR EARTH CUSTOM OF "SHOW AND TELL", I WILL EXHIBIT SOME OF OUR TERRIFYING WEAPONRY.
SNEKK BLOG U-LAR MEKHH! GAHGHH! RK.
ALL RIGHT, CALVIN, THAT'S QUITE ENOUGH.
MISS WORMWOOD, SHOULDN'T HE BE IN SOME SPECIAL SCHOOL OR SOMETHING?
2-22
WHEN IT SNOWS, YOU CAN GO SLEDDING. WHEN IT'S WINDY, YOU CAN FLY KITES. WHEN IT'S HOT, YOU CAN GO SWIMMING.
BUT WHEN IT'S RAINING... SIGH...
..THE ONLY SPORT IS DRIVING MOM CRAZY.
2-23
I THOUGHT I HAD A GREAT IDEA. BUT IT NEVER REALLY TOOK OFF.
IN FACT, IT DIDN'T EVEN GET ON THE RUNWAY.
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY IT EXPLODED IN THE HANGAR.
I'VE HAD IDEAS LIKE THAT.
2-24 1994 Watterson Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
zZzZzZzZzz
HOW COULD YOU MISS THAT? IT WAS RIGHT TO YOU!
YOU THROW TOO HARD!
2-25
EWWW, LOOK! THIS BUG IS EATING ANOTHER BUG!
YUCKKK!
BLECCHH! GROSS!
ICK! ICK!
BLBPBBLPTH! I CAN'T BELIEVE I LOOKED AT THAT! EW! EW!
HACCKKHH! GAAACCK!
GREAT EXPERIENCES ARE EVEN BETTER WHEN THEY'RE SHARED.
2-26

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

THIS WAS THE SCENE TODAY AS PROFESSOR JULES DEADMAN ARRIVED AT COURT TO TESTIFY IN A SUIT OVER A STUDENT'S LOW GRADE.
DEAD
HEADING UP MR. DEADMAN'S DEFENSE AGAINST CHARGES OF GRADE BIAS IS WALDEN LAW SCHOOL PROFESSOR TAMARA WHITNEY...
2-21
MS. WHITNEY, THERE'S TALK YOU'LL TRY TO PORTRAY YOUR CLIENT AS THE REAL VICTIM.
WELL, AS THE DIRECT DESCENDANT OF SLAVES, I FEEL I'M ENTITLED TO USE WHATEVER DEFENSE MOST EMPOWERS ME!
WHOA! SO IT'S A FULL P.C. DEFENSE?
LET'S JUST SAY WE'RE READY.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY, MY NAME IS STANLEY STANSFIELD, AND I'M COUNSEL FOR ALBERT SLOCUM, THE PLAINTIFF...
2-22
THE FACTS ARE THESE: ON OR ABOUT DECEMBER 21, 1993, PROFESSOR JULES DEADMAN GAVE MR. SLOCUM A GRADE OF B+ ON A TEST, THUS ENDING ANY CHANCE OF MR. SLOCUM'S EVER BEING ADMITTED TO LAW SCHOOL!
THE LOSS OF INCOME TO MR. SLOCUM OVER THE 40-YEAR LAW CAREER HE WOULD HAVE HAD IS AT LEAST $15 MILLION! THINK OF IT! HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF SOMEONE ROBBED YOU OF $15 MILLION OVER ONE LOUSY MID-TERM GRADE?
GUILTY!
YEAH!
TOO SOON, TOO SOON! BUT HOLD ON TO THOSE FEELINGS!
ORDER!
...AND SO I ASK YOU TO CONSIDER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WHO IS THE REAL VICTIM HERE? IS IT ALBERT SLOCUM, OR IS IT IN FACT PROFESSOR DEADMAN HIMSELF?
MR. SLOCUM MAY HAVE HAD TO ENDURE MOMENTARY EMBARRASSMENT, BUT LOOK AT THE PRICE MY CLIENT HAS HAD TO PAY...
2-23
SHUNNED BY HIS COLLEAGUES, REVILED BY HIS STUDENTS, ABANDONED BY HIS EMPLOYER, A PARIAH IN HIS OWN COMMUNITY...
...THE BUTT OF 1,000 SICK JOKES, RIDICULED, SPAT UPON...
I HATE THIS DEFENSE.
MR. SLOCUM, COULD YOU PLEASE TELL THE JURY HOW THE LOW GRADE YOU RECEIVED HAS AFFECTED YOUR LIFE?
UH... SURE.
IT'S BEEN A TOTAL NIGHTMARE, MAN. EVERYWHERE I GO, PEOPLE POINT AND SNICKER. WOMEN TURN AWAY FROM ME. DOGS NIP AT MY HEELS. THEY SEEM TO KNOW I NO LONGER HAVE A FUTURE.
AND YOUR PAST WASN'T EXACTLY A DAY IN THE PARK, EITHER, WAS IT, SON?
WELL, NO. NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
2-24
IN FACT, YOU WERE ABUSED, RIGHT? BY A PRIEST, PERHAPS?
A PRIEST? SURE, WHY NOT?
MR. SLOCUM, DID THERE COME A TIME WHEN YOU REALIZED THE FULL SERIOUSNESS OF YOUR UNFAIR GRADE?
YES, THERE DID...
I WAS BEING INTERVIEWED FOR LAW SCHOOL WHEN THE GUY LOOKED AT MY TRANSCRIPT. HE GOT THIS BIG SMILE AND THEN COMPLETELY BROKE UP. IT WAS A ROYAL DIS!
2-25
AND AS YOU SAW YOUR DREAM OF A LEGAL EDUCATION GO DOWN THE DRAIN, YOU WERE DEVASTATED, RIGHT? TOTALLY SHATTERED?
I WAS PRETTY BUMMED, YEAH.
IT'S OKAY TO CRY, SON. REMEMBER?
OH, RIGHT. HOLD ON, I GOTTA FLASH ON MY DOG DYING.
MR. SLOCUM, YOU'VE TESTIFIED UNDER OATH THAT YOUR "LOW" MATH GRADE HAS CAUSED WOMEN TO SHUN YOU, IS THAT RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT, MAN.
COULD YOU GIVE US AN EXAMPLE?
SURE! DURING "WET TOGA" WEEKEND AT MY FRAT HOUSE, THIS ONE BABE KEPT SHOOTING ME DOWN! I COULD NOT GET TRACTION, MAN!
AND YOU FEEL THIS WAS BECAUSE OF YOUR MATH GRADE?
I'M SURE OF IT.
AND NOT BECAUSE YOU'RE A JERK?
WELL, THAT'S WHAT SHE CLAIMED. BUT I DON'T BUY IT FOR A SECOND!

Memories linger from fall term intramurals

By Porter Fox

The following recount of an intramural victory this fall is dedicated to everyone who organizes intramural sports at Middlebury, to all those over the hill who we meet year after year on the other side of the field, and to those on my side of the field, the Underhills.

I could hear the dried leather of my cleats creak in protest as I knelt down on the soccer field. The toe of the right one was blown out due to a miscalculated whiff on my rocky high school field. Various other battle scars stretched from heel to toe. I couldn't remember the last time I tied the laces up. It would take a mathematician to figure out the mass of nylon that I dared call a knot years ago. I could still slip them on, though, and they fit like a glove. With one knee on the soggy grass, I lifted my head up to meet the nervous gaze of the Underhills.

For three years the Underhills had slid, sprinted, jumped and juked their way through the muddy fields behind the fitness center, and today was our last chance to take home the one win we had never captured.

No one spoke. What could you say? We were mostly seniors, and this was our last chance to become the champion soccer team in the Middlebury intramural league. For three years the Underhills had slid, sprinted, jumped and juked their way through the muddy fields behind the fitness center, and today was our last chance to take home the one win we had never captured.

Finally, someone to my right broke the silence: "Well, this is it."

"Mmm ... yeah ... this is it," responded a thoughtful voice across the huddle.

"I love you guys," joked our wise ass striker. A flash of teeth shot around the circle followed by several nervous giggles.

"Lets chalk up one more 'V' for the Underhills," uttered a timid defender.

"Yeah," muttered the team in unison, "one more ..."

With a silent break we left the circle and drifted out to our positions.

The team facing us had been victorious by a score of 1-0 in our first meeting. They were generally in better shape, and had been talking a big game all week. Of course we returned their heckling, questioning their male prowess on the soccer field and in other high-contact activities, but several awkward stumbles and nervous chatter about strategies betrayed our apprehension.

After giving my supporting halfback a slap, I moved up field. The shriek of the referee's whistle jolted me from my pre-game daze, and the Underhills surged across the midfield line.

The next forty minutes were an unrestricted soccer fiasco. Both teams played their hearts out, but in the middle of the second half Jeff Flynn, a veteran Underhill, drove the ball into the back of the net. The other team never notched an equalizer.

I will never forget the look on everyone's face when the final whistle blew. It may as well have been a World Cup victory. I looked at my fellow halfback again, who was now covered in sweat and mud, and beamed with pride at being a member of this team.

Glancing around the field, we looked like a bunch of little kids smiling from ear to ear, unsure what to do next.

After congratulating the other team, we caravanned home to shower and celebrate. Exhausted, I collapsed into bed and pried off my mud caked cleats. We did it, I thought, we went out with a win. I tucked my cleats in the back of a now overflowing storage closet, and looking down at the mystery knot still tied in my laces, threw my jersey into the hamper for the last time.

"Good-bye Underhills," I sighed, "it was a blast."

Porter Fox

The author and his outdoor soccer intramural team celebrate their long-awaited victory.

Women's basketball ends regular season

By Corey Tournet

The Middlebury college women's basketball team finished the 1993-94 regular season in style, winning a pair of games from Skidmore and Tufts.

On Feb. 16, Middlebury blew out to a 46-24 halftime lead and coasted to a 80-63 road win against a 13-8 Skidmore squad that certainly wasn't a pushover. Middlebury's defense clamped down tight on the Thoroughbreds in the first half, holding them to an anemic five for 33 from the field.

Chris Pagano '94 led the charge for the Panthers with a game-high 24 points and 19 rebounds. Katie Hubert '96, who has taken her game to a whole new level, shot an amazing six for seven from three-point land and finished with 20 points for the contest. Eliza Zug '96 played her typical lunch-pail brand of basketball, posting a solid 16 points and nine rebounds, while senior Whitney Williams notched 10 assists.

The Tufts game on Saturday saw more of the same high-quality basketball from the Panthers, although they did let down somewhat in the second half. Sparked by Hubert, who decimated the Jumbos' defense for five three-pointers in the first half, Middlebury jumped out to a 49-33 lead at the break.

However, unlike Skidmore, Tufts did not go down easily. Led by a tough inside combination of Ellie Strobel (19 points) and Amy Hanson (18), Tufts played inspired basketball in the second half. By the two and a half minute mark the lead had been whittled down to a mere seven points. Tufts got no closer, though, as Middlebury quickly pushed the lead back into double digits and won by a score of 86-77.

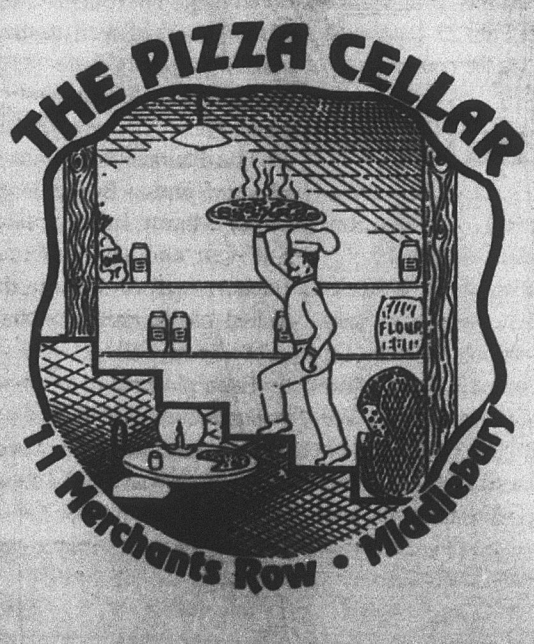
Once again Zug and Hubert came up huge for the Panthers. Zug finished with 18 points on a sizzling nine for 11 from the field. Zug was also recipient of the Charles Barkley player of the game award, as she put a Tufts player out of commission.

Hubert also struck for 18, hitting for six three-pointers while grabbing eight rebounds. Not to be outdone, Chris Pagano had her usual monster game, leading all scorers with 26 and hauling down twelve rebounds.

The Panthers now turn their thoughts to the upcoming ECAC tournament. They enter the tourney on an upswing, having won three in a row and nine out of their last 10 overall. According to senior captain Pagano, "We have really come together and stepped up our game."

Coach Amy Backus and her players believe that they have a good shot at winning the tournament, as long as they play hard-nosed basketball and take each game one at a time.

The Panthers hope to earn a home-court game for the first round of the tournament. If they do so, the game would be played on March 2, with the time to be announced.



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Panthers lose thriller

By Rob Merrill

Men's Basketball	
Middlebury	78
Williams	80

"Just a great college basketball game."

That is how Panther men's basketball coach Russ Reilly described his team's narrow loss to Williams College last week. In an effort to convey the same description in a more vivid manner, one discovers that nothing could be more exact. Fantastic? Superb? Titillating? No, simply great. The Ephs and the Panthers treated those in attendance on Feb. 16 with precisely what college sports represents: two rival schools playing their hearts out in an athletic contest.

On paper, the game didn't look like much of a match-up. After all, this was the same Williams squad that *Sports Illustrated* chose to feature in their Division III college basketball preview in November. The same team that boasts a player who towers above every other center in the league at a height of seven feet, two inches.

But David slew Goliath, didn't he? Well, in Pepin Gymnasium last Wednesday, almost. Williams eked out an 80-78 victory, but they had to play near perfect basketball to earn it.

Middlebury came out strong from the opening tip. They did not dig themselves a hole early like they did in mid-January against the same Williams ballclub. In that game, they found themselves down 19 at the half and were never able to catch up, despite outscoring their rivals by one in the second half.

On Wednesday, the halftime scoreboard read Williams 38, Middlebury 34, and the tantalizing word "upset" was being tossed around by spectators before the first seconds even ticked off the clock in the second segment.

Middlebury stayed close throughout the game because they maintained their composure. Williams applied frenetic defensive pressure from the outset, but the Panthers calmly ran their offense and were able to get good shots almost every time down the floor. They recorded a scintillating 58 percent field goal percentage for the game.

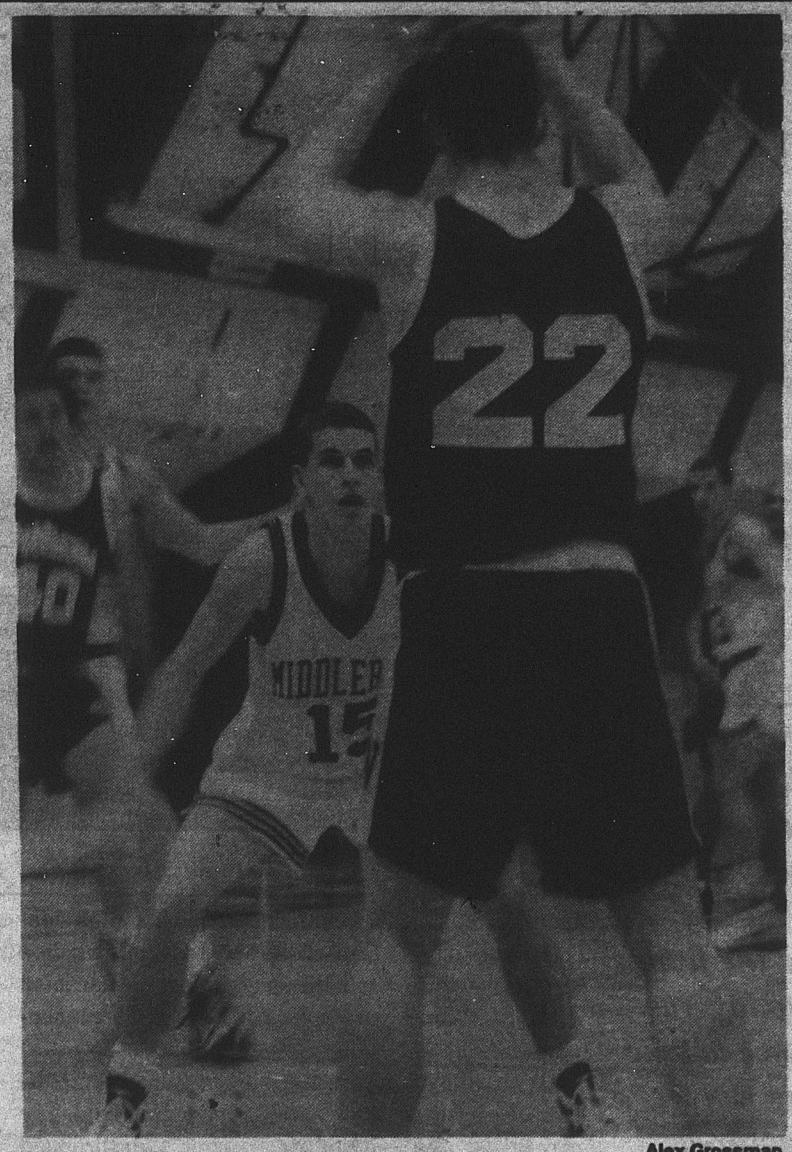
The Ephs employed an extremely up-tempo style, but Middlebury wisely did not allow themselves to be lured into a run and gun shootout. Instead, they exhibited patience on the offensive end and were effective in establishing their own contrasting rhythm.

Sophomore forward Jethro Ferguson gave the home crowd a glimpse of the future as he emerged as an offensive force against Williams.

Coach Reilly has been high on Ferguson's talents since he joined the club last year, but he found Ferguson's performance against the Ephs nothing short of spectacular, remarking that "Jethro played basketball up to our expectations. He set an aggressive tone from the beginning, taking the ball to the hole with the speed and power that are capable of making him a dominant Division III player."

For the game, Ferguson finished with 21 points. Jason Prenevost '95 tallied 22 and sophomore Ari Kriegsman had 12. Ferguson voiced the typical response to games in which one team is highly favored: "We had a positive outlook, since we had nothing to lose and everything to gain."

And though they did not gain the victory, the Panthers demonstrated that their record is at least a little deceiving and that they are capable of playing consistent basketball from week to week. They are playing with the same confidence they exuded when they opened the season with a 3-1 record. Only one game remains on this year's Panther schedule, a Feb. 22 date with Union College on the road.



Alex Grossman

Tim Bianchi '95 plays tough defense against unbeatable Williams.

Howe Cup showcases squash

By Adam Gilden

The Middlebury women's squash team finished its regular season of team competition with an eleventh place finish among 25 teams this weekend at Yale's Howe Cup. The event constituted a four-division tournament for the national team championship.

The Panthers finished fifth in the "B" division with a 1-4 record behind the University of Pennsylvania, Williams, Amherst and Connecticut College.

Although the team's only win came against Wesleyan, coach David Saward was nonetheless pleased with his team's overall performance.

"I thought we played well in all the matches with the possible exception of Connecticut College," he said. "We lost the Amherst match 5-4 and lost the rubber match in a fifth set, so it really could have gone either way."

Coach Saward noted exceptional performances by several of his players, especially co-captain Amanda Stine '94, who finished her Middlebury career by going 4-1 for the weekend. Fellow seniors Karen Falso and Jen Reeher also turned in strong performances, both going 3-2.

Reeher fought back from a 2-1 deficit in games for two of her three wins. "I served well in the fourth and fifth games both times, and that's what pulled me through," she said.

The Panthers' top four seeded players; junior Becca Houghton, senior Marett Taylor, junior Erin Sullivan and sophomore Molly Bschorr, will compete in the individual championships March 5-7 at Williams College.

Each player will be guaranteed two matches in the 64 player national tournament, and according to coach Saward "a lot depends on the draw."

Men's hockey beats Babson in dramatic fashion

By Jeff Bitner

Men's Hockey	
Middlebury	6
Babson	5

In a distinctly unique season for the men's ice hockey team, last weekend was a perfect example of the difficult competiton Middlebury faces game in and game out. With a flare for the dramatic, the Panthers treated the Middlebury faithful to some of the most exciting play of the season against Babson College and Holy Cross this weekend. Splitting the two-game homestand, the team moved to 9-6 in ECAC East/West competition and 13-8 overall.

The Panthers faced off against the Beavers Friday evening in a game that most knew would be both very important to the team's playoff hopes as well as hotly contested throughout.

After failing to score in the first period, the Panthers turned up the heat in the second, scoring two goals within one minute and thirty seconds of each other. The first came off the stick of first-year phenomenon Mark Belliveau, who put away his eighth goal of the season off passes from Sebastian Bilodeau '97 and Dave Erickson '96 at 4:19. Shortly thereafter Etienne Bilodeau '97 netted one of his own, assisted by Jim Walsh '97.

Middlebury was unable to maintain their slim lead, however, as the Beavers exploded for three goals of their own before the period ended. With their momentum temporarily halted, the Panthers went to the lockerroom down 4-2 with 20 minutes left to play.

But before Middlebury could mount an attack in the third, Babson added another goal. Now down by three with just 15 minutes left to play, the Panthers truly faced a stiff challenge. The team rose to the occasion though — especially senior captain Jamie Wood — who scored the first of four Panther goals a mere 15 seconds after Babson's last. Exactly five minutes later another of the squad's defensemen got into the action. Eric Girard '96 closed the gap to a single goal when he put away a shot off a dual assist from David Medow '95 and Sebastian Bilodeau.

The next eight minutes remained scoreless as time began to run out for the home team. But to the delight of the partisan crowd, Martin Lachaine '96 notched the equalizer with less than three minutes left in the game thanks to a beautiful feed from Wood. And this combo's work was not yet done. With just 19 ticks left on the clock, Lachaine returned the favor, setting up Wood for a shot that beat goaltender Sean Condon and nearly lifted the roof off Nelson Arena. Captain Wood's performance and leadership are just what the doctor ordered for this team with only two games left before playoffs begin.

The following afternoon, the team found themselves mired in another see-saw battle, but this time they fell short against a well-disciplined Holy Cross squad. After jumping out to an early 1-0 lead compliments of Joe Dumas '95, the Crusaders picked up two goals midway through the first period to seize the advantage. Undaunted, the Panthers roared back early in the second as Pete Schneider '97 and Wood scored two minutes apart.

Holy Cross remained focused, however, and tied the contest at three apiece before the second intermission. After the break, the Crusaders grabbed the lead six minutes into the third and action subsided somewhat until the final three minutes of the game. In the last moments Middlebury missed several opportunities as the Crusaders' goalie was twice out of position and the Panthers were on the doorstep. However, no one found the net, and after a last second shot rung tantalizingly off the crossbar, Holy Cross tacked on an empty net goal that sealed the Panthers' fate.

Girard best capsuled the weekend, saying "they were both very exciting games which are good for the fans, but we really could have used a win against Holy Cross. We fall behind and have to fight back for wins. It worked Friday, but we couldn't pull it off Saturday."

Ilse Guck

The men's hockey team brought excitement to Nelson Arena on Friday, beating visiting Babson in the closing seconds.

Prenevost flourishes in spotlight

By Rob Merrill

It's a storyline that has been repeated time and time again, yet somehow a part of us never tires of hearing it: small town kid works harder and longer than everyone else and achieves success in the sporting world.

Middlebury junior Jason Prenevost, a starting guard for this year's Panther ballclub, joined elite company recently when he scored his 1000th point in a Panther uniform. In the history of Middlebury basketball, only nine others have reached this scoring milestone, and only a few of those accomplished the feat before their senior season.

Prenevost has wanted to be a basketball star as early as he can remember. He picked up his first ball before second grade and has followed its bouncing path ever since.

His love for the game sprang from his environment. His father is a coach at Whitehall High School in New York, just across the state border from the family's home in Bomoseen, VT. Jason used to attend his father's practices and quickly took a liking to the sport. More than a decade later, he starred for his father at Whitehall, demonstrating the skills that made Middlebury and other colleges take notice.

Middlebury successfully recruited him, and Panther head coach Russ Reilly has been nothing but pleased with Jason's performance ever since. Joining the team in 1991, Prenevost spent a couple years playing second fiddle to the likes of resident stars Mike Baumann and Seth Heaton. This year, however, he has been the undisputed go-to guy, called upon to step up and take the pressure shots.

The Panther offense, which has alternately sputtered and sparked in this roller coaster ride of a season, relies heavily on the shooting touch of Prenevost. When the shot-clock ticks below ten seconds, a simple play labeled "baseline" will often be called. It's truly as simple as its name; the other four players on the court position themselves along the baseline and the offense is transformed into the Prenevost Show.

The play is designed to take advantage of Prenevost's offensive weaponry. By clearing out of the lane, his teammates open up the floor for Prenevost to either shoot, pass, or penetrate. In this situation, he becomes what coaches call a "triple threat." The defense is forced to respond to him, and more often than not, the opposition helplessly watches the ball arc toward the rim and softly through the net.

Prenevost attributes his success to the most basic of values: hard work. Each summer he plays basketball constantly, trying to perfect at least one aspect of his game that will make him even more dangerous in the following season. According to his coach, he is one of the best pure shooters in the league, and his technique is a result of repetition and dedication.

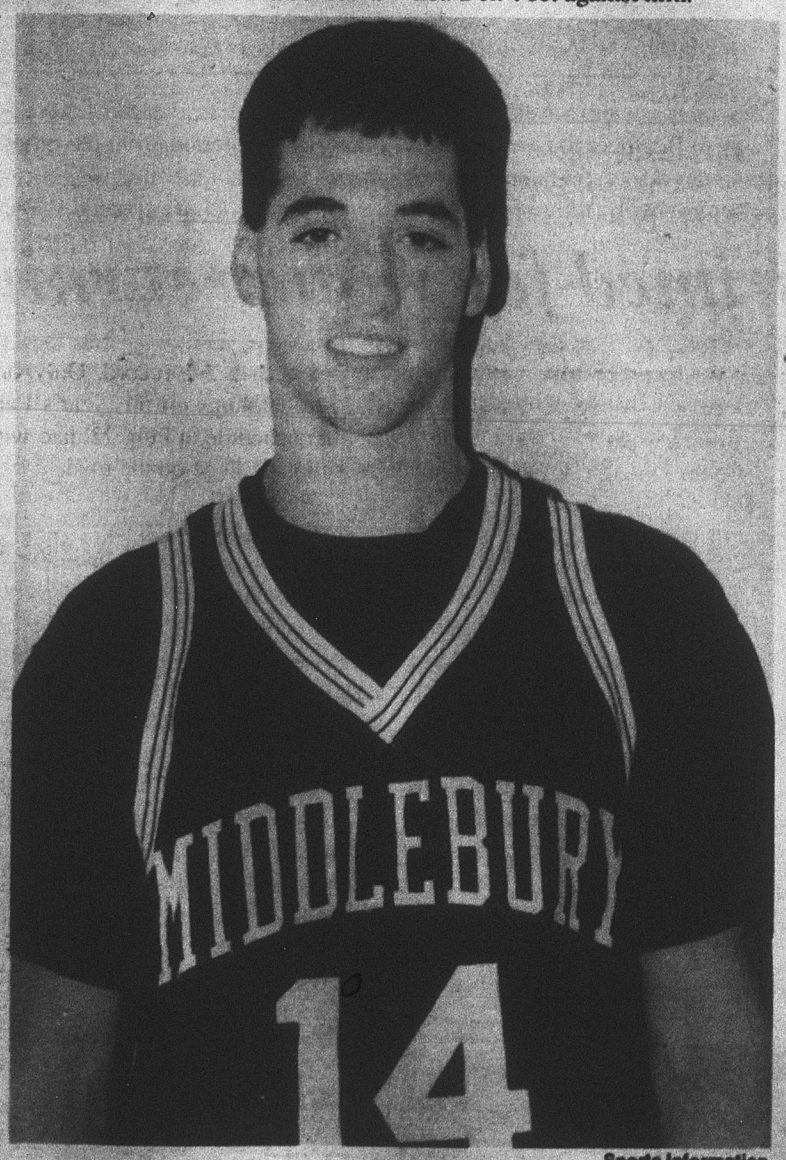
In his own words: "Growing up in Vermont, my friends and I had to improvise. Most of us fell in love with basketball and would spend all summer just shooting. I don't even think about the motion anymore and sometimes I'll have games where everything I throw up feels good."

Those games have occurred frequently this season. Entering the season's final game, Prenevost is averaging 20.0 points per contest. The Middlebury school record for a single season is just 22.8. He notched his career high early on this year, exploding for 36 points in a November victory versus Clarkson. His forte is his three-point accuracy, which for the season stands at 42 percent, remarkably just a shade under his 46 percent total field goal percentage. When one examines the box scores, a not so surprising trend emerges. As their leading scorer goes, so goes the Panther team. In their six wins, Prenevost has averaged 23 points per game.

This season Jason also set a school record for most consecutive free throws made, canning 38 in a row to break the 28 year old mark held by Kevin Ducey. In total, he has missed only four out of his 66 attempts from the charity stripe this year. His free throw percentage of 93.6 ranks him in the top ten nationally.

As the 1993-1994 campaign for this team draws to a close, coach Reilly already looks forward to next year. Prenevost's challenge as likely captain and team leader will not only be to score often, but to increase his assist totals. The mark of a great player is that he elevates the level of play of his teammates.

Entering the season's final game, Jason has 1034 career points. The all-time scoring mark of 1844 points, set by John Humphrey, may be unreachable without an absolutely monster season, but second place on the record board is only 1498. With the prospect of a stellar senior year, Jason could easily slide into the second slot on the all-time list. Don't bet against him.



Sports Information

Junior guard Jason Prenevost has been a constant source for the offense during the otherwise rocky men's basketball season.

The Extra Point

Neall Currie

I really feel bad for Alexi Urmanov. The poor guy from Russia won the Olympic gold medal in men's figure skating last Saturday. I wonder if he realizes that his title is about as deserved as Florida State's college football national championship.

Just like the voters in the bowl coalition polls, the judges for the figure skating competition awarded the title based on what they wanted to see, rather than what really happened.

Here's what happened:

Canada's Elvis Stojko skated practically flawlessly in the free-skate, improvising during a program that was far more challenging than it needed to be for him to earn a medal. He set the standard for technical perfection and athletic grace that evening, and no one who skated before or after him was able to measure up. By the way, his artistic interpretation was a martial-arts oriented expression of athleticism. But this is a sporting event, not a cotillion, right?

Urmanov skated nearly as well as Stojko; his program was not so demanding, but he executed it almost flawlessly. Well, there was that one time he botched a landing and nearly joined the fans in the stands. But the ice was kind of slippery, so cut the guy a break, right? Urmanov's inappropriately named "artistic impression" involved such graceful moves as wobbling one's knees and dramatic gestures like dropping one's chin. Throw in a few Vanna Whitesque arm-twirls stolen from a bad synchronized swimming program — yeah, that's a sport — and you have a performance that Jesse Helms would have hailed as sublimely artistic. Give it the gold!

What a joke.

What did the judges see? They saw Urmanov, a skater who didn't really have the necessary athletic skills, come out in a fluffy shirt and tights and skate around with his arms extended, trying to make us all believe we were in a time warp and it was still 1932. I think they saw him skating and thought, "Oh, cool. I can do that." They had probably never heard Stojko's music before, and thought, "Oh no, new stuff. We might have to learn that."

Even the television network, CBS, which is about as likely to criticize Olympic judging as it is to require literacy of its analysts, recognized that maybe the judges were a wee bit conservative. Figure skating just gave athletic credibility a kiss good-bye.

Figure skating is unique among sports in that it requires a certain amount of grace as well as strength, agility and skill from its champions. That's what makes it so interesting to watch. But ever since 1984, when Katarina Witt won the gold on the strength of her artistic impression, the event has become less a sport and more a dance event. Even Kristi Yamaguchi, who won the gold in 1992, was the weakest jumper of the three women on the U.S. team that year. The strongest was Tonya Harding.

I hope Tonya Harding, who has no chance of getting any medal from these judges anyway, goes out there skating to Metallica and Garth Brooks and nails six quadruple axels in a row while Witt twirls prettily to some wilted Pachelbel. Wouldn't it be cool to see a little athleticism in figure skating again?

Hockey trounces UVM

(continued from page 24)

'94. Odden then completed the scoring in the game's final 20 minutes with a goal from Parks and Hefner.

Fortunately for the hosting Catamounts, the game could have been much worse. Panther goalie Christy Picard '96 was called upon to make just five saves during her hour on the ice, whereas her UVM counterpart was forced to flop all over the goal crease while accumulating 43 saves.

Three days later the women's team journeyed to RPI to face the Engineers. In a meeting earlier this season, RPI gave Middlebury a competitive game before succumbing 2-0. Saturday's game barely altered the script as the Panthers triumphed by the identical score.

Middlebury's pair of goals were scored by Kirtley Horton '95 and Jen Hefner and assisted by Megan Tully '96 and Parks. Picard enjoyed a bit more of a workout versus RPI, stuffing 26 Engineer shots to earn the shutout.

If there is one obvious trend to this year's campaign, it is simply that when the Panther offense is in gear, they are prone to demolishing their opposition. In their fourteen wins, they have outscored their foes 88-13. In their eight losses, on the contrary, they have found the net only 15 times compared to their opponents' 45 goals.

The team is also benefiting from increased production by their second line of Laura Cowperthwait '94, Horton and Tully.

The women skaters have one remaining date on their schedule, a season-ending tournament this weekend at Boston College. The tournament serves as a conference championship for the independent varsity teams that are members of the ECAC.

Middlebury will face off against Wesleyan in the opening round on Friday, and although they're definitely not looking past the Cardinals, the Panthers look forward to encountering either Bowdoin or the host Eagles in the final. Both teams have beaten the Panthers, and Jen Hefner expressed the prevailing team sentiment when she remarked, "we're all pretty eager to get revenge on them."

Skiers await carnival

(continued from page 24)

has come together. We've worked a little harder this year and we're a little more cohesive." In addition, the return of senior Nate Bryan, one of the top ranked skiers in the country, will certainly bolster the men's alpine squad.

Looking to the future, Middlebury hopes to improve upon its disappointing eighth place finish at last year's Nationals. So far, six women and two men have qualified for the Nordic events. Additionally, both Ryan Brooks '96 and Dan Cantrell '96 could qualify with a strong showing this weekend. Coach Aldrich commented, "No other team has qualified six skiers from men or women, it's almost unheard of."

The first step for both teams, however, is to keep its sights on performing well at its own Winter Carnival Feb. 25-26 at the Snow Bowl. Remarked Waddell, "We've skied well at different carnivals, but this weekend should be a lot better, being at home and on our own hill."

Men's basketball takes Williams to the wire, page 22

The Middlebury Campus
Sports

Men's hockey thrills fans with nail-biter, page 22

Thursday, February 24, 1994

Women's swimming seizes second place at New Englands

By Jon Johnstone

Middlebury's powerhouse women's swimming and diving team stormed into Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine this past weekend for the New England Championships, hoping that their unprecedented talent and depth would carry them to their best finish ever.

For most, this would be the season finale, and they arrived tapered, shaved and ready to sink the competition. They did not disappoint; the team came away with a truly remarkable second place finish, with five swimmers qualifying for nationals along the way.

"We really dominated both in and out of the water," said head coach Mary Ellen Claffey. "We had the most team support of any other team there, and that translated into positive energy and a lot of dropped times."

Indeed, the overall team effort was so strong that junior swimmer Wendy Ekman had trouble singling out any noteworthy performances. "There were a lot of personal bests. Everyone just swam really well," she said.

Perhaps most significant, though, was the outstanding performance of the Class of 1997. The Panther women had five national qualifiers — and they are all first-year students.

Nell Fox and Margaret Rieley both made the cut individually, with Fox having particularly strong finishes in the 100 yard backstroke and the 400 yard individual medley, and Rieley standing out in the 200 yard freestyle and the 200 yard individual medley.

In addition, the rookie relay teams of Meredith Cox, Fox, Leslie Graham and Rieley in the 4 x 200 yard freestyle, and Fox, Rieley, Graham and Maria Sartori in the 4 x100 yard freestyle surged into the elite group of qualifiers.

The weekend of competition did, as always, bring mixed emotions for every member of the team. If Middlebury swimming and diving was celebrating the arrival of its talented group of newcomers, it was also mourning the departure of the seniors on the team whose seasons ended with this competition. Co-captain Heather Thomas, Laura Eckert and diver Elizabeth Gold all saw four successful years of hard work and rewarding competition come to a close.

Thomas echoed the senior's sentiments when she summed up her thoughts: "It's really amazing how far Middlebury swimming and diving has come just in the last four years. When I was a first-year we finished eighth, which was then easily our top finish ever. To come in second as a senior is mind-boggling."

Though much has changed with this team, some key aspects remain as stable as ever. Many members of the men's team traveled all the way to Bowdoin to cheer on their counterparts, a tradition that has always been unique at New Englands, and one that gains expressions of admiration from the other teams in the competition.

As coach Claffey stated, "We definitely had the most drive, determination and enthusiasm of any team out there. You couldn't ask for a better team."

Alex Grossman

Middlebury's five qualifiers for the nationals take a break from their preparation in Brown Pool.

Ski teams primed for winter carnival success

By Douglas Tsao

The Middlebury College ski teams continued their successful season with a strong showing at the Williams Winter Carnival. The men's and women's teams finished fourth and second respectively. Both squads are poised to cap the season off with a strong performance at Middlebury's own Winter Carnival this coming weekend.

The Panther women were propelled by an exceptional effort from their Nordic squad, with five skiers finishing in the top 15 of the women's 10K freestyle. Leading the charge was Rikka Pakkala '95, who won the race with a time of 32:22. Casey Clifford '96 and Kristin Daly '94 finished seventh and eighth.

In the men's 10K freestyle, Middlebury was led by senior Zach Caldwell, who placed sixth. Rookie Jay Leach also continued his consistent season by crossing the line in 13th place.

At least on the first day of competition, the Middlebury women's alpine team met the high standards set by the Nordic squad. Sophomores Mia DeMattei and Kirsten Rogers finished first and second, with first-year Andrea Bither coming in seventh.

"It was good to have Mia win a race, as she blew her knee out last year, and Andes finish was also really strong," said Rogers.

Unfortunately, the Middlebury men's alpine team was a different story. Symbolic of the Panther's tough luck, senior co-captain Matt Waddell's ski came off about halfway through his first run. Seniors George Putnam and Dave Bryan finished 18th and 22nd respectively.

The second day did not yield any better results. While Waddell finished an impressive third, none of the other Middlebury men managed to finish the race.

"We weren't happy with our slalom result. We're capable of skiing much better, and hopefully next weekend, we will," said Waddell.

So far this season, the men have been performing better in the slalom competition than they have in the giant slalom, so the weekend's poor showing in the former was indeed a surprise.

The women's alpine squad also had a tough second day. Coach Bart Bradford summarized the outing by saying, "We really let one slip away from us." While DeMattei finished third and Bither finished fourth, both Perkey Mackey '95 and Rogers fell. Jennifer Horn came in 18th.

Despite some disappointment over this weekend's results, the team remains optimistic in regard to the remainder of the season. Rogers commented, "UVM is not the powerhouse it used to be, and our team

(continued on page 23)

Men's lacrosse begins practice

Jon Schoenecker

The Middlebury men's lacrosse team held their first practice on Valentine's Day in preparation for their season opener on March 22 against Franklin & Marshall.

Women skaters gear up for season finale

By Rob Merrill

Women's Hockey	
Middlebury	7
UVM	1

The Middlebury women's ice hockey team returned to their winning ways last week with road wins over the University of Vermont (UVM) and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). In doing so, they ran their overall record to 14-8 and positioned themselves for a solid season finale this coming weekend at the ECAC Independent Tournament in Boston.

The contest against UVM allowed the Panthers an opportunity to vent their frustrations after losing in the championship game of their own Middlebury Tournament only three days before.

The venting began with first period goals from the Hefner sisters, Jen and Kelly, off assists from sophomore Torrey Hinman and first-year forward Helen Froelich.

The Panther offensive attack did not stop there, however. They exploded for four more goals in the second period, two off the stick of Jen Hefner and one apiece from Whit Parks '97 and Laurie Odden

(continued on page 23)